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# THE TIMES

How Mr Chapple scored at Wembley, page 14

# Government to let Murdoch bid for 'Times' go ahead

Mr Rupert Murdoch was given clearance yesterday to start securing union acceptance of his terms for taking over "The Times", "The Sunday Times" and the three supplements. MPs were told the Government had agreed to the transfer of the titles to News International without reference to the monopolies commission.

## Minister lays down eight conditions

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

The Government has agreed to the transfer of Times Newspapers to Mr Rupert Murdoch's News International without referring the merger to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. But in clearing Mr Murdoch to embark on securing within three weeks the agreement of the trade unions to his terms for taking over *The Times, The Sunday Times* and the supplements, Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, has laid down eight *stringent conditions.*

Opening the emergency debate in the Commons yesterday on the question of referring the proposed purchase to the monopolies commission, Mr Biffen told the House that the conditions relating to editorial independence would be incorporated into the Articles of Association of the Times Newspapers companies and any changes in the relevant articles would in future require his consent.

That requirement would be backed up by the sanctions provided for in the Fair Trading Act, 1973. *In certain circumstances* a breach of some of the conditions would be a criminal offence, liable, on conviction, to imprisonment or to a fine or to both.

The three-hour debate ended with the Commons approving the Government's decision by 281 votes to 239, a majority of 42 for allowing the transfer to go ahead.

Five Conservative backbenchers defied the Government three-line whip, and voted with Labour. They were Mr Jonathan Aitken (Thanet, East); Mr Peter Bottomley (Greenwich, Woolwich, West); Sir Hugh Fraser (Stafford and Stone); Mr Barry Porter (Bebington and Ellesmere Port); and Mr Delwyn Williams (Montgomery). More than 100 MPs did not vote.

The conditions laid down by the government are:

1. The newspapers are to be published as separate newspapers;
2. Future disposals are to be subject to the consent of a majority of the independent national directors of Times Newspapers Holdings Ltd;
3. *The number of the independent* directors is to be increased from *four to six and the appointment* of any independent national directors *in the future is not to be* made without the approval of the existing independent national directors;
4. *Editors shall not be appointed nor* dismissed without the approval of the majority of the independent national directors;
5. The editor of each newspaper shall retain control over any political comment published in his newspaper and, in particular, shall not be subject to any restraint or inhibition in expressing opinion or in reporting news that might directly or indirectly conflict with the opinions or interests of any of the newspaper proprietors;
6. Instructions to journalists shall be given only by the editor or those to whom he has delegated authority;
7. Subject to any annual budget *for editorial space and expenditure,* the editor shall retain *control over* the appointment, *disposition* and dismissal of journalists on his newspaper and of all other content of his newspaper;
8. Disputes between the editors and the directors of the companies are to be settled by the independent national directors.

As Labour MPs and some Conservative backbenchers *voiced their dismay at Mr Biffen's* decision not to refer the matter to the *monopolies* commission, the Secretary of State told the House that he faced the possibility that insistence on an investigation would *risk closure of the Times titles,* with 4,000 redundancies and the danger of permanent closure. After earnest consideration and to avoid disruption and uncertainty Mr Biffen said he had concluded that he should give his consent to the transfer, subject to the conditions.

*With most Conservative MPs* clearly behind the Government's decision, Mr Aitken was one of the few voices of dissent from the Tory benches. He spoke of widespread anxiety about the take over and suggested *that Mr Biffen might* have acted in an incorrect manner. The managing director of Associated Newspapers had indicated to him that his company was likely to test in the courts the decision not to *refer the matter to the commission.*

From the Labour front bench, Mr John Smith, opposition spokesman on trade, outlining the concern of Labour MPs, said that such a concentration *of newspaper power as was proposed* by this purchase was *probably* unprecedented.

But Mr Biffen soon made clear that the issue for him was whether a reference to the commission would endanger the future of the two newspapers because of the impossibility of completing an inquiry *within* the three-week timescale given to Mr Murdoch to complete satisfactory negotiations with the unions.

What had weighed most heavily with him was the conclusion of Sir Godfray le Quesne, chairman of the *monopolies commission,* that in view of the possible scope of the inquiry and the statutory requirements concerning the report, completion could not be promised under eight weeks.

*Murdoch statement:* Mr Murdoch said last night:

We are all delighted and grateful for Mr Biffen's decision.

The survival of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* now depends solely on binding agreements being reached with unions and chapels for economic manning levels and work practices.

A good start has been made to these negotiations but a tremendous amount remains to be done in the next two weeks.

Mr Louis Heren, deputy editor of *The Times,* said that Mr Murdoch had not made any changes in the editorials of *The Times.* The accusation, which had been made in the Commons by Mr Aitkin, was *completely without foundation.*

Challenge denied: Associated Newspapers denied that it was planning to challenge in court the Government's decision not to refer Mr Murdoch's bid to the commission (Dan van der Vat writes).

Mr John Winnington-Ingram, a *director of* Associated, said that a misunderstanding had arisen *during a conversation* between Mr Aitken and Mr R. W. Shields, managing director of Associated.

New disputes procedure and text of Biffen statement, page 2
Parliamentary report, page 10

# Trident force unlikely to get fifth submarine

By Peter Hennessy

A fifth submarine for the Trident strategic nuclear force has become *a hidden casualty* of pressure on the defence budget.

Though no public announcement will be made before 1983, it has become clear in Whitehall that the "fifth boat option", as it is called, is dead in all but name.

The extra cost it would incur, between £675m and £750m on top of the £4,500m to £5,000m earmarked for the procurement of a four-boat Trident submarine squadron, *means that* nothing short of an unexpectedly vigorous upturn in the economy would enable the Government to go ahead and build it.

The United States Government will not need to be told formally for another two years that the Thatcher *administration* has dropped its option on *a fifth boat and will not* therefore be requiring the additional missiles, launchers, navigation and fire control systems that would have been provided by American manufacturers.

Abandonment of a fifth vessel for the Trident force, which is intended to replace the Polaris submarine squadron in the early 1990s and to carry the British nuclear deterrent into the 2020s, will have both *political and strategic consequences.*

*The "fifth boat lobby"* has been quite strong inside the defence community, though it now seems resigned to losing.



Divers' cheer: Mr James Tucker, aged 27, from Port Elizabeth, South Africa, and Mr *Philip Robinson, aged 31, from Bradford,* the two divers rescued from the North Sea last week, celebrating yesterday in Aberdeen after spending several days in a decompression chamber. They described *their 10-hour battle against the cold when* they were trapped more than 400ft beneath the sea, after the lifeline on their diving bell snapped. Their rescue last Wednesday was the first time divers had been transferred from one bell to another under water—a so-called "wet transfer". At a showing of a film of the rescue yesterday it was said the technology which had made the manoeuvre successful was *probably* available only in the North Sea.

# NEC clash today after Mr Rodgers quits the Shadow Cabinet

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Labour Party, who is struggling to maintain party unity, was last night having to contend with the resignation of Mr William Rodgers from the Shadow Cabinet and his replacement by Mr Wedgwood Benn.

He will also face the possibility today of a bitter dispute inside the party's national executive committee, which could lead to the resignation of Mrs Shirley Williams.

Mr Benn automatically succeeds Mr Rodgers because he was the runner-up in the Parliamentary Labour Party elections, but Mr Foot made it known last night that he has yet to decide on what shadow post he will offer.

The party leader faces a dilemma in finding Mr Benn a role, and one that is not made easier by the fact that they clashed at a meeting of the PLP earlier in the day before Mr Rodgers's resignation was known.

Mr Foot accused Mr Benn of spreading myths about the party's last election manifesto and presenting a "caricature" of the last Labour Government. His retort came after Mr Benn had told the meeting that there should be more collective leadership and that the last election manifesto had been agreed without the knowledge of MPs.

He said that once a Labour Government was in power it abandoned the concept of control and power, allowing the civil servants to run policy over the heads of ministers.

The faction fight inside the party, triggered by the special party conference decision on the leadership issue and the formation of the Council for Social Democracy created by the so-called gang of four, could erupt into bitterness in the national executive because of an emergency motion tabled by Mr Benn.

The motion is seen as being designed to put moderate dissidents on the spot and there was speculation that if it was carried Mrs Williams would resign.

It was being said, however, that Mr Tom Bradley, another NEC member who has joined the Council for Social Democracy, would decide to stay on and fight inside the executive.

There were suggestions last night that the clash may be headed off by a move not to get the motion debated. Mr Eric Heffer, a left-wing member of the national executive who seconded Mr Benn's motion, was understood to have doubts on whether it really constituted an emergency and should therefore be debated. Others shared the same view.

While the manoeuvrings were taking place there was no surprise among Labour politicians that Mr Rodgers had finally decided to resign from the Shadow Cabinet. The special party conference decision, which gave the trade unions a bigger share than the PLP in electing

Continued on page 2, col 4

# 500 feared lost from Java Sea ferry boat

Jakarta, Jan 27.—More than *500 men, women and children* were missing tonight after a *blazing Indonesian passenger* ferry sank in a storm in the Java Sea hundreds of miles from land.

A Government spokesman said that more than 500 other people who were on board the Tampomas II, 6,139 tons, had been rescued in the area which *is 500 miles north east of* Jakarta.

*Officials expressed grave concern* for the lives of the missing people because at least 13 rescue ships had searched all night for survivors.

The inter-island ferry, blazing since early yesterday, went *down by the stern at 12.45 pm.* A search and rescue spokesman said most passengers jumped into the sea before it sank.

Mr J. E. Habibie, spokesman for the Sea Communications Ministry, said on national television that rescue ships had picked up 525 passengers, 29 crew and 12 bodies, but about *570 passengers and crew were* missing.

He said he was not sure whether those rescued included 149 people who jumped into the sea soon after the blaze broke out. They were picked up by *another Indonesian ferry,* the Sangihe, but the rest of the passengers stayed on board.

When the Tampomas II left Jakarta for Ujung Pandang in south Sulawesi it was carrying 1,054 passengers, 82 crew and *dozens of vehicles.*

Mr Habibe said that at first it had appeared that the flames were being brought under control, but the Sangihe suddenly reported that the fire had blazed up again and the *Tampomas II* began listing badly to port.

About 40 minutes later it started sinking with hundreds of men, women, and children jumping for their lives into the rough sea.—Reuter.




# Strike wave gathers momentum in Poland

Warsaw, Jan 27.—Industrial workers, coal miners, farmers and students staged strikes and protests in Poland today *and threatened further action* as pressure mounted on the authorities for a new initiative to break the social unrest. The demands made by the strikers went far beyond the issue of free Saturdays.

*Workers in Bielsko Biala* began an indefinite general strike demanding the dismissal of local government officials. All main plants were closed including a Fiat car factory employing 11,000 men.

In Lodz, work halted in more than 1,000 factories and enter*prises for three hours and* transport was stopped for one hour as part of a nationwide campaign to force the authorities to keep the promises made to strikers last summer.

At least 100,000 workers in *Katowice and coal miners in* the Bytom region also struck for four hours. Work stopped in more than 70 mines and enterprises in Bytom.

In Rzeszow, headquarters of a campaign for the legalization of Rural Solidarity, Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity trade *union leader, conferred with* farmers about coordinated strike action.

Fifteen farmers in Swidnica, south-west Poland, began a hunger strike in a church today to press demands for the registration of Rural Solidarity.—Reuter.

# One person in 10 without work as jobless total jumps by 103,000

By David Blake
Economics Editor

The underlying level of unemployment went up by 103,000 in January to reach 2,236,000 (9.3 per cent of the workforce). Sharp rises in the number of *people seasonally out of work* and the number of school leavers without a job made earlier predictions by Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, that the month would see an "appalling" increase come true.

One person in 10 in the labour force is now out of a job and total unemployment rose by 175,223 to 2,419,452.

The figures provoked an immediate [illegible] between the [illegible] Mr Michael [illegible] *Opposition,* both of whom described them as "tragic".

*Mr Foot* blamed the Government and Mrs Thatcher blamed the world recession and years of over-manning. The figures also produced [illegible] *of protest from* [illegible] leaders.

The number out of work now stands at yet another postwar record after 16 consecutive months of increases in the underlying level.

But the Government may be able to take some comfort from the fact that the rate of increase has now stopped accelerating.

Although there were five weeks between the latest count and the one taken in December, the 103,000 increase in the *seasonally adjusted figure for* adult employment was almost the same as in the previous four-week period.

In addition, the *number of* vacancies at employment offices went up slightly for a second month to 103,000. Traditionally this is the best indicator of the way the labour market is moving, but the figures are so low at present that attempts to iron out seasonal factors may be introducing severe distortions.

Whitehall officials are thus *carefully refraining from saying* that the growth in the number of people out of work is past the worst. But signs that economic activity started to steady towards the end of last year holds out the hope that at some point in the spring the figures [illegible].

The crude figure, including those seasonally unemployed, was boosted in January by about 70,000 above the underlying level, whereas next month it is expected to be 20,000 below the level if seasonal adjustments are made. The increase in the crude total therefore may be quite small next month.

But, although the number out of work is expected to *grow more slowly* there is still no sign of the rise actually coming to an end. Unemployment is expected to edge up until at least the autumn and most private forecasters expect it to go on rising into 1982.

*One in nine of all men are* now out of work if account is taken of seasonal factors.

The recorded unemployment rate among women is much lower, with only one in 16 out of a job, but this partly reflects the fact that women *often do not bother to register* as unemployed.

In *Northern Ireland,* more than 17 per cent of the working population are without work. Unemployment in the province is up by more than 5,000 in a month and one in every five men is out of work.

*On the mainland,* the north is hardest hit, with 14.8 per cent of the *male workforce* without a job and total unemployment at 12.4 per cent.

Other hard hit areas are Wales, Scotland and the West Midlands where manufacturers have borne the brunt of the recession.

The figures would be much worse but *for* Government measures which provide training or employment subsidies. A total of 828,000 are covered by such schemes, most of them being paid for short-time working. The Government estimates that without these schemes total unemployment would go up by 310,000.

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, described the figures as "another *wretched* record".

Mr David Basnett, of the General and Municipal Workers, said that "hopelessness and despair" was being spread by the Government's monetarist policies.

Sir Terence Beckett, director general of the CBI, *said that* things would get worse before there is any hope of reversing the trend. It was imperative to restore competitiveness by minimizing cost increases, he said.

# £1 and 20p coins to be introduced by 1983

*By David Nicholson-Lord*

Inflation and convenience bit a little deeper into British tradition yesterday with the announcement that the £1 note, after a distinguished but increasingly scruffy career, is to be *killed* off and *replaced* by a coin.

The change is due to begin in 1983, a year after the introduction of a new seven-sided 20 pence piece to bridge the pence and 50 pence coins. The £1 *coin* and note *will* then run in tandem for several years *until the note is phased out.*

But in a gesture to monetary traditionalism, *the £1 coin will* resemble a gold sovereign. It will be the same size as a sovereign, slightly smaller than the present 5 pence piece, and *made of a bright yellow alloy,* like the old threepenny bits.

The announcement, made in a Commons written answer by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of *the Exchequer, was immediately* welcomed by Mr Derrick Skinner, director of the Automatic Vending Association of Britain, representing about 200 companies.

Mr Skinner said it would be particularly *useful* for cigarette, food and ticket machines, though less so in garages, because of the escalating price of fuel.

*The design of the £1 coin has* not been decided, although it *will have a "distinctive security edge"* to prevent counterfeiting. The 20 pence silver coin will have the same diameter of seven-eighths of an inch, but it will be much thinner than the £1.

Inflation, coupled with the spread of vending machines and automation, is the main reason for the change. The pound is now worth 30 pence compared with its 1971 value, with the result that notes are handled more often and with less respect.

Their life expectancy, measurable in years when they were introduced just before the First World War, has thus dropped to about nine months.

In contrast, only 270 million £1 coins are expected to be minted initially. Each should last 40 years and contribute a long-term public *expenditure* saving.

Numismatists greeted the announcement as a minor upheaval, pointing out that only *once before has £1 been struck* in anything other than gold. That was in *similarly* parlous times when Charles I lost the Royal Mint in August, 1642, and was forced into borrowing from supporters of silver plate for melting.

Meanwhile, the Bank of England *emphasized that* the £1 note, except for a brief *appearance during the* Napoleonic wars, has only been a permanent feature since the panic run on gold of August, 1914, and the drying up of the supply of sovereigns.

Leading article, page 15



## Blunt Reagan warning to kidnappers

Kidnappers of American diplomats *in future can expect swift retribution* from the United States, President Reagan said when welcoming the returned hostages at the White House. There are limits to America's patience, he declared. An estimated quarter of a million people lined the streets cheering the convoy of buses. Earlier, in their first public appearance at a *West Point press conference* some seemed anxious to play down *reports of ill-treatment at the hands* of their captors — Page 7

## Socialist resigns

Mr Andre Cools is to resign the leadership of Belgium's Socialist Party, one of the two coalition partners. *His departure is attributed* to mounting left-wing pressure for the Government to abandon its economic austerity programme, which has started off angry trade union reaction — Page 6

## Day strike threat by civil servants

A national one-day strike by 500,000 civil servants is being planned for March 6 by union leaders intent on breaking through the Cabinet's 6 per cent public service wage rise limit. Other industrial action to disrupt key government business is likely to follow — Page 2

## Onshore oil search

*One of eight licences for onshore oil* and gas exploration granted by Mr *David Howell, the Secretary of State* for Energy, is for an area in Fife, *which includes the Royal and Ancient* golf course at St Andrews. Other licences include areas adjoining the north Yorkshire coast — Page 17

## Prison action grows

Prison officers at Ashford Remand Centre and at Gloucester have resumed industrial action over the meals break dispute *as a result of* the High Court ruling that the leaders of the Prison Officers Association had acted unlawfully in instructing members to suspend industrial action — Page 4



Afghan moves: Mr Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian leader, at the Islamic *conference in Taif, Saudi Arabia,* where rumours circulated that he might *visit Moscow for talks on* Afghanistan. Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, was being pressed not to appoint an Afghanistan mediator — Page 8

## Doctors pay move

*Incentive payments to doctors and* nurses in inner-city areas with poor medical services have been proposed by the British Medical Association in a move to halt the falling quality of care — Page 6

## Protests expected at college proposal

Local authorities are expected to make strong protests over government plans to remove polytechnics and *higher* education colleges from their control, but many will be relieved to have a heavy financial burden lifted. The proposals involve the establishment of a new national body responsible for allocating government funds — Page 5

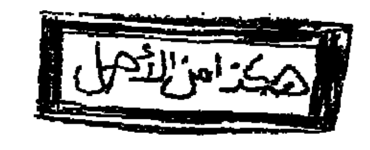
**Rates rise:** A GLC rate increase of 17.6 per cent means that inner London rate rises will range from 20 to 70 per cent — 4

**Madrid:** East and West fail to find neutral ground on disarmament — 6

***Havana:*** Cuba is preparing its people to defend the revolution against a Reagan assault — 7

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HOME NEWS

# Leaders of 500,000 civil servants plan national strike in March to break Cabinet's 6% pay rise limit

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

A national one-day strike by 500,000 civil servants is being planned for March 6 by union leaders intent on breaking through the Cabinet's 6 per cent public service wage rise limit. Other industrial action designed to disrupt key Government business is likely to follow.

The civil service unions' pay campaign committee met yesterday to draw up contingency strike plans that will be implemented if ministers refuse to concede a joint wage claim of between 15 and 20 per cent.

The first propaganda shots in the forthcoming pay battle will be fired today when 750 delegates of the 105,000-member Society of Civil and Public Servants (SCPS) meet in the Queen Elizabeth Hall on the South Bank, London, to agree a response to the Government's "punitive cash limit". They are certain to adopt proposals for industrial action backed by a £2-a week voluntary levy payable from next week.

A similar conference is being held tomorrow by the Civil and Public Services Association (CPSA), which with 225,000 members is the largest union in the Civil Service. The CPSA is expected to take the first steps towards joining the industrial action, and further backing is expected from the Inland Revenue Staff Federation and the Institution of Professional Civil Servants.

March 6 is the favourite date for a pre-Budget strike among union leaders charged with drawing up the campaign of disruption. It will come at the end of a month's bargaining timetable on the first joint claim submitted by all the unions.

SCPS delegates will today endorse a 15 per cent claim, based on the gap between salaries for administrators and executives in the Civil Service and similar jobs in the private sector. The figure, the union claims, would have been announced by the Pay Research Unit which looks each year at the comparative movement in earnings with industry. This year, its findings have been set aside by the Government.

Mr Campbell Christie, deputy general secretary of the SCPS, said last night: "All the indications are that there will be support for action if the Government sticks to 6 or 7 per cent for the Civil Service".

The unions are due to agree on a joint pay claim on February 5, and they have set a three-week limit for negotiations. If a satisfactory pay settlement operative from April 1 has not been agreed by February 26, the signal will be given to go ahead with industrial action.

This bad news for the Government on the pay front coincided with agreement being reached on 7½ per cent rises for the largest single group of public service workers. Union leaders of about one million local government manual workers signed a deal yesterday giving a flat rate increase of £4.60 a week and an extra day's holiday. Average earnings will rise from £92 to £99 a week.

# Fog defeats Army's anti-tank missile

From Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent
Middle Wallop, Hampshire

The Army's latest anti-tank missile was defeated by its worst enemy yesterday — the European weather. But officers defended its ability to penetrate Russian armour, if not the swirling fog which forced the cancellation of its first public demonstration on Salisbury Plain.

The Ministry of Defence is fitting the missile, best known by its acronym TOW, to about 80 Lynx helicopters in the British Army of the Rhine (BAOR) to upgrade BAOR's defences against Soviet tanks, which outnumber those of Nato in central Europe by almost three to one.

Yesterday's press demonstration was to have marked the end of what the Army has described as highly successful acceptance trials which have been conducted during the past three months by the Army Air Corps from its headquarters at Middle Wallop. Training courses for helicopter crews are about to begin and the first Lynx/TOW flight will enter service in Detmold, West Germany, towards the end of next month.

At £2,500 a shot, the Army claims that TOW is actually cheaper than the obsolescent SS11 missile which it is replacing. It is also faster, more accurate and has a greater range of up to nearly two and a half miles, and is simpler to fire.

Photograph by Bill Warhurst

A TOW missile being loaded on to a Lynx helicopter yesterday by the Army Air Corps.

Developed by the American Hughes Aircraft Company it is already in service with 25 other countries, including 10 in Nato and was extensively used by United States forces in Vietnam.

Its effectiveness has been open to serious doubt since Britain decided to buy it in 1977 instead of its main competitor, the more expensive Franco-German HOT missile.

Work has now started in the United States on a new warhead because trials indicated that the existing one could not penetrate the frontal armour on the latest Soviet tanks.

Meanwhile the existing model was defended yesterday by Major-General Bill Withall, Director of the Army Air Corps. "There are certain problems with the frontal armour of the T-72" he admitted. "But there are more ways than one of skinning a cat. It is very effective when you approach the tank from a side-on ambush position as we intend to do. And if you hit him on the front it would make him spill his vodka, all right." He said that the Air Corps had been very encouraged by the high hit rate during trials.

Yesterday's cancellation might also be seized upon by those who remain sceptical about the future for anti-tank helicopters.

Major Neal Baldwick who was to have flown the Lynx for four firings against cardboard targets, said: "We have to abide by peacetime safety levels now. But in wartime we would have carried out our mission fog or not, because we would have little option".

# Move to give MPs more control over spending

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

New arrangements to enable MPs to have greater control over public expenditure and "the granting of supply" are being considered by a Select Committee on Procedure (Supply) which began work in the Commons yesterday.

The committee, under the chairmanship of Mr Terence Higgins, was asked to recommend a new system after many backbenchers had protested about the way in which millions of pounds of Government spending can be authorized "on the nod", without examination of the items of expenditure.

The former Leader of the House, Mr Norman St John Stevas, Conservative MP for Chelmsford, accepted the view that the way the House controls spending was in need of radical review.

The Select Committee on Procedure in the 1977-78 session declared that "the House has long since ceased to exercise detailed control over public expenditure in any but the formal sense of voting the annual estimates and approving the Consolidated Fund and Appropriation Bills".

Mr K. A. Bradshaw, the Clerk Assistant to the Commons, yesterday outlined the history of Parliament's assertion of power over the Executive, and suggested ways in which the House could win back some of its control over items of government spending.

# Ferries stay in port as talks fail

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

Pay talks between union officials and Townsend Thoresen, which has had two ferries halted since last week at Southampton by the seamen's dispute, broke down last night.

There had been hopes that the two ferries, the Viking Venturer and the Viking Valiant, would resume their cross-Channel service after talks began on a company offer adding 10 per cent to earnings.

The offer was made independently of the national employers' body, the General Council of British Shipping, but with its approval. It would have lifted earnings of deckhands to £170 a week and of engine room men and other crew to £154.

After last night's breakdown, which came when the company refused to move towards the National Union of Seamen's demand for overtime to be paid at time-and-a-half rates, the company issued a warning that it would continue withholding pay from the crews.

Townsend Thoresen had offered to reinstate 11 deckhands deemed to have dismissed themselves after refusing to obey a master's order to sail last week, and to begin paying again the remaining 250 crew on both vessels provided an agreement could be reached.

The union said last night the company's action amounted to a full lock-out. Union negotiators had in the talks at Southampton offered to resume the Southampton service even without a pay agreement, the union said.

The company said, however, that it was not prepared to resume paying the crew since it would remain subject to continuing guerrilla action decided by the NUS unless a local agreement was reached.

The union's disputes committee yesterday decided not to grant dispensation for vessels on banana trade routes to and from the Windward Islands in the West Indies, despite appeals from the governments of St Lucia and St Vincent.

Crews aboard the Geest Land and Geest Tide at Barry, South Wales, were said by the union yesterday to have voted against resuming work.

# Biffen consent to transfer of papers

The following is the text of a statement by Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, on the proposed purchase of *The Times, The Sunday Times* and three supplements by Mr Rupert Murdoch.

Consent in a case of urgency to transfers of newspapers not economic as going concerns and intended to continue as separate newspapers.

Whereas:

1 News International Ltd (NIL) is a newspaper proprietor whose newspapers have an average circulation per day of publication, calculated in accordance with section 57(3) of the Fair Trading Act, 1973, amounting, with that of *The Times*, to 500,000 or more copies, and also amounting, with that of *The Sunday Times*, to 500,000 or more copies;

2 *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* are newspapers of which The Thomson Organisation Limited is a newspaper proprietor;

3 The Secretary of State received on 23 January, 1981, an application for his consent to the transfer of each of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* to NIL;

4 The Secretary of State is satisfied that neither *The Times* nor *The Sunday Times* is economic as a going concern and as a separate newspaper and that if, in each case, the newspaper in question is to continue as a separate newspaper the case is one of urgency;

Now, therefore, the Secretary of State, pursuant to section 58(3)(a) of the Fair Trading Act, 1973, hereby consents to the transfer of each of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* from the Thomson Organisation Limited to NIL without requiring a report from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under section 59 of that Act but subject to the following conditions:

1 Publication of the newspapers transferred, shall be as separate newspapers.

2 NIL shall not without the consent of a majority of the independent national directors for the time being of Times Newspapers Holdings Limited (TNHL) do anything, or procure or permit anything to be done, which shall result in:

(i) NIL, by reason of any transfer, ceasing to be a newspaper proprietor in relation to *The Times* or *The Sunday Times*, or

(ii) either TNHL or Times Newspapers Limited (TNL) ceasing to be a subsidiary (within the meaning of Section 154 of the Companies Act, 1948) of NIL, or

(iii) TNL selling or otherwise disposing of any interest in *The Times* or *The Sunday Times*.

3 (a) Before either of the transfers to which this consent relates takes effect the Articles of Association of TNHL shall have been altered to give effect to the requirement set out below and a draft of the resolution so altering the articles shall have been approved by the Secretary of State as giving effect to that requirement.

(b) The said requirement is that the number of independent national directors shall be increased from four to six and no person shall be appointed to or removed from the office of independent national director, including such additional persons, without the approval of the majority of the independent national directors at the time of the appointment or removal.

4 (a) Before either of the said transfers takes effect the Articles of Association of TNL shall have been altered to give effect to the requirements set out below and a draft of the resolution so altering its Articles shall have been approved by the Secretary of State as giving effect to these requirements.

(b) The said requirements are that:

(i) The Editor of *The Sunday Times* and the Editor of *The Times* ("the Editors") shall not be appointed or dismissed without the approval of the majority of the independent national directors of TNHL.

(ii) The Editor of each newspaper shall retain control over any political comment published in his newspaper and, in particular, shall not be subject to any restraint or inhibition in expressing opinion or in reporting news that might directly or indirectly conflict with the opinions or interest of any of the newspaper proprietors (within the meaning of Section 57 of the Fair Trading Act, 1973) of *The Times* or *The Sunday Times*.

(iii) Instructions to journalists shall be given only by the Editor or those to whom he has delegated authority.

(iv) Subject only to any annual budget for editorial space and expenditure determined by the directors of TNL, the Editor of each newspaper shall retain control over the appointment, disposition and dismissal of journalists on his newspaper and the space of any content of his newspaper except that in the case of advertisements the Editor's rights may be limited to the right to refuse to publish any advertisement and where in his newspaper advertisements in general are, or any advertisement in particular is to appear;

(v) Any dispute between the Editors, or either of them, and the Directors of TNL is to be referred to the independent national directors of TNHL or such one or more of the independent national directors as they may themselves determine; and their decision shall be final and binding.

5 The Articles of Association of TNHL and TNL after alteration to comply with the foregoing requirements shall not thereafter be altered in any way which affects, or which may affect, the operation of the said requirements except with the written consent of the Secretary of State.

John Biffen
Secretary of State for Trade
27 January, 1981.

# Dissenting MPs have to explain

By Robin Young and John Witherow

Several Labour MPs who have announced their support for the Council for Social Democracy will be called to account by their constituency parties next week. There have been calls for the resignations of Mr Tom Ellis (Wrexham), Mr John Horam (Gateshead, West) and Mr Neville Sandelson (Hillingdon, Hayes and Harlington).

Dr David Owen is to attend a regular meeting of his Plymouth, Devonport constituency executive on Friday and the meeting is expected to be stormy. One member, Mr Ronald Lemin, has given notice of his intention to call for Dr Owen's resignation.

Mr William Rodgers's constituency chairman in Teesside, Stockton, Mr Derek Cooke, said that resolutions were being submitted by several wards condemning Mr Rodgers's action. They would be considered at a management committee meeting early next month.

Mr Mike Thomas (Newcastle upon Tyne, East) and Mr Ian Wrigglesworth (Teesside, Thornaby) are expected to attend meetings of their constituency parties next week.

Mr Wrigglesworth's agent, Mr Charles Shopland, said yesterday: "I do not expect any fierce reaction. Mr Wrigglesworth is held in very high regard. He has already written to all our delegates explaining his position."

The Leicester, East constituency party has planned no special meetings over Mr Tom Bradley's decision to join the council. Mr Bradley, who has been an MP there for 18 years, has considerable support, especially among the Asian community, in what is essentially a moderate constituency.

If he were to resign from the Labour Party and stand as a social democrat it is felt he would stand a good chance of being reelected.

Mr Robert MacLennan (Caithness and Sutherland) will have to face a special general management committee meeting on Saturday when opposition to his stand is likely.

Mr MacLennan, who has been MP for the vast constituency since 1966, has considerable support among the Labour voters.

# Union move to left in Barnsley worries many

From Ronald Kershaw
Barnsley

Events last weekend threw into sharp focus the curious relationship between the trade unions and the Labour Party. The move to the left at all levels of the party hierarchy and the influence the unions have exerted left many traditional Labour supporters bewildered, to say the least.

Nowhere has the change been more apparent than in the Yorkshire region, and nowhere have allegiances changed more rapidly than in the Barnsley constituency of Mr Roy Mason, Labour MP for the past 28 years.

The National Union of Mineworkers has packed constituency party meetings with union delegates and taken over the constituency party. Only this week has one union, the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers, seen fit to challenge the grip the miners have, and has asked for an inquiry into numbers of delegates and affiliated members.

Barnsley has become an example of what many consider to be the ills of constituency parties throughout the country. Bands of militant members have been drawn together by a nucleus of left-wing extremists and determinedly but democratically set about outsting more moderate party colleagues from positions of responsibility.

The prize is a reselection conference at which sitting moderate MPs will either undertake to further the ideals of their constituency masters or lose their backing or, trade union sponsorship. At Barnsley Mr Mason has been an NUM-sponsored MP since the by-election of 1953.

The traditionally moderate influence of miners' leaders started to wane with the election of Mr Arthur Scargill as president of the Yorkshire area NUM.

Party rules permit NUM branches to send delegates to the constituency management committees to represent union branch members in their local constituencies.

Cheques were sent from the Barnsley area NUM headquarters to constituencies in which miners lived, entitling them to representation on a management committee.

At Barnsley, miners' delegates appeared in such numbers that they were able to vote for left-wing nominees in the constituency party.

It was then a simple step for Mr Scargill and his Yorkshire miners' council to instruct their sponsored MPs to vote in accordance with area council policy, on pain of unsympathetic treatment at the time of parliamentary candidates were reselected.

This week's move by the shopworkers has focused attention on the NUM's Barnsley headquarters branch, which employs fewer than 50 people but which sends the maximum six delegates to the constituency party's general management committee.

It is said, but not confirmed, that the fees paid by the branch represent several hundred affiliations. One delegate is allowed for every 50 members of a party thereof. It is generally believed that the branch has been credited with membership of hu... Barnsley constituency.

It is understood, but not confirmed, that caucus representatives from constituencies all over the county are shortly to meet to discuss strategy which will result in entirely new nominations from left-wing constituency parties at the coming reselection conferences.

# NEC turmoil over Benn motion

Continued from page 1

the party leader, was the final straw.

The issue of mandatory reselection, referred to by Mr Rodgers, is also expected to be the centre of a heated debate inside the national executive today.

The left wing is demanding that general management committees must draw up a short list of more than one, even if they do not wish to do so. Moderates interpret that as a potential threat to sitting Labour MPs.

But the crucial issue will be on Mr Benn's motion which states: "That this committee and each of its members pledges itself wholeheartedly and without reservation to work together for the return of a Labour Government at the next general election through the election of Labour candidates in every constituency standing in support of the election manifesto that will be presented at the time".

It continues: "And invites all individual and affiliated members of the party to endorse this call personally and to seek support for it in all constituency Labour parties and affiliated organizations of which they are members and to seek endorsement for it from all Labour candidates in local elections this year".

Mrs Williams and Mr Bradley have tabled amendments to soften the motion, and in an interview on BBC radio Mrs Williams said she would abstain from any loyalty test.

She described the motion as "an open-ended commitment to something we do not even know" and said: "It is objectionable in a democratic country and in a democratic party".

Mr Denis Healey, the deputy leader of the party, said on ITN's *News at One* that he thought declaration of allegiance was an unreasonable request.

"I think to treat people who have been members of the Labour Party for 30 or 40 years as if they were witnesses in front of Senator McCarthy's committee in the United States is a scandalous thing to do."

Mr Foot, in replying to Mr Benn's allegations inside the PLP, said that members of the PLP were free men. They were not delegates of their constituencies or of the national executive committee.

Mr Duffy's appeal: Mr Terence Duffy, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, has appealed to the "Gang of Three" not to leave the Labour Party (Donald Macintyre writes).

Mr Duffy said yesterday that he had spoken after the party conference on Saturday to both Mrs Williams and Mr Rodgers in an attempt to persuade them and Mr David Owen not to leave the party.

After a meeting of the union's executive yesterday, he said: "We do not want them to leave the party, we want them to stay and to help us to fight, to have decisions which we disagree with reversed".

# Fresh disputes procedure is put to unions

By Our Labour Editor

Leaders of printing trade unions involved in negotiations over Mr Rupert Murdoch's proposed purchase of Times Newspapers Limited are to have talks next week on a new disputes procedure aimed at curtailing unofficial stoppages.

Proposals for a disciplinary clause have been outlined in a letter to the unions inviting them to a meeting to discuss the issue on Monday. Initial reaction from the main craft union, the National Graphical Association (NGA), is encouraging.

Mr Leslie Dixon, president of the NGA, said yesterday: "We will discuss it with them, no problem. I think we ought to have a disputes procedure covering all sections of the industry including all Fleet Street, not just *The Times*."

The procedure suggested to the printing trade unions at Times Newspapers is understood to lay down that workers taking unofficial industrial action would lose a day's pay on the first night. If the stoppage continued on the second night members of the same union would be suspended on basic rates. On a third night, all printing workers would be suspended on basic rates.

Talks with the NGA yesterday concentrated on staffing levels in the composing room where the union has 350 members. Mr Murdoch wants an early changeover to electronic photocomposition, which would involve about 45 per cent voluntary redundancies.

Other discussions were held with the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades. There will be talks today with the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel.

# New conditions over 'Times' sale directly enforceable

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

Sir Denis Hamilton, chairman and editor-in-chief of Times Newspapers Holdings Ltd, said last night the conditions that Mr Rupert Murdoch had accepted were stronger than his previous undertakings and, for the first time, were directly enforceable.

Such enforcement would not necessarily have been recommended by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. No conditions had been imposed in the case of the Thomson acquisition in 1967.

Mr Harold Evans, editor of *The Sunday Times* said: "I would have preferred our independent *Sunday Times* consortium, but no editor or journalist could ask for wider guarantees of editorial independence than those Mr Murdoch has accepted, now entrenched by the Secretary of State".

The criminal law sanctions for breaking the conditions are laid down in section 62 of the Fair Trading Act, 1973, and, upon conviction on indictment, are imprisonment for up to two years or a fine, or both.

However, as Mr John Biffen, the Secretary of State for Trade, mentioned in the debate, only two of the conditions will be subject to criminal law, together with the requirement that the company's articles of association not be changed without written consent of the Secretary of State.

The legal instrument binding Mr Murdoch, according to the Department of Trade, is to be the statement of consent to the purchase by Mr Biffen, which he issued yesterday. It will be the subject of an exchange of letters between Mr Biffen and Mr Murdoch.

The first two conditions subject to the criminal law are a requirement that *The Times* and *Sunday Times* shall be published as separate newspapers, and that Mr Murdoch's News International Ltd shall not, without the consent of a majority of the six independent national directors do anything resulting in the sale or disposal of the newspapers.

Cabinet ministers, in advising Mr Biffen, were clearly influenced by the risk of seeing the newspapers' future jeopardized by a reference to the commission delayed by a purchaser.

Some details of the Government's final hectic decision-making emerged last night. Mr Biffen disclosed that his department received the formal application for the merger last Friday, the day he returned from a visit to India. However, his department had been appraised of the likelihood of Mr Murdoch's bid being accepted before he left, and official legal studies were begun.

Mr Biffen did not tackle the issue apparently until some time on Monday morning. There followed a rapid round of consultations, in which the idea of imposing ministerial conditions as a short cut past the monopolies commission was mooted.

After a ministerial meeting on Monday, with Mrs Thatcher in the chair, lawyers from both sides were called in the evening to the Department of Trade to try incorporating the editorial safeguards. Journalists' ideas were also submitted but in the end not incorporated.

What remained were the safeguards put forward by the Thomson vetting committee, less the concept of editorial quality which, apparently, proved impossible to express as a legal commitment.

# Skinhead revenge raid led to race riot, jury told

A race riot broke out in Woolwich, London when armed skinheads, chanting "Sieg Heil", mounted a revenge raid on coloured people, a jury at the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Between 30 and 100 white youths, some of them with their heads shorn almost bald, attacked about 100 to 150 coloured people in a cinema queue, Miss Ann Curnow, for the prosecution, said. When the coloured people took refuge in the Odeon cinema, the skinheads smashed £800 of glass in the building.

She added that a solid phalanx of youths, shouting: "We are going to kill the coons", engulfed everything in sight.

Cars were damaged and Mr Ashok Lekeh, a Pakistani who was waiting at a bus stop, was attacked by 12 youths. He was kicked unconscious one of his teeth was kicked out and three more were loosened. He needed 14 stitches in a gash on his head.

On trial are Vincent Wendon, aged 18, a labourer, of Tewson Road, Woolwich; Kevin Wakeling, aged 18, labourer, of Appleby Road, Canning Town; Shane Spalding, aged 18, of Tate Road, Canning Town, Martin White, aged 20, a labourer, of John Wilson Street, Woolwich, and Kevin Heathfield, aged 20, a labourer, of Woodhill, Woolwich.

All deny riotously assembling together and unlawfully fighting and making an affray on March 28 last year. Mr Wakeling also denies having an offensive weapon, an iron bar, on the same day.

The trial continues today.

# Many dams in dangerous state, magazine says

Too many of Britain's dams and reservoirs are falling into a dangerous state of disrepair, according to a report in *New Civil Engineer*, the magazine of the Institute of Civil Engineers.

The report described a "disturbing chapter of ignorance and neglect by owners—particularly private owners who control the oldest dams".

It said the danger was getting worse as dams continued to age and owners became more reluctant to spend money on maintenance.

The report said the 1975 Reservoirs Act was supposed to improve matters but the Department of the Environment had refused to implement it on grounds of cost.

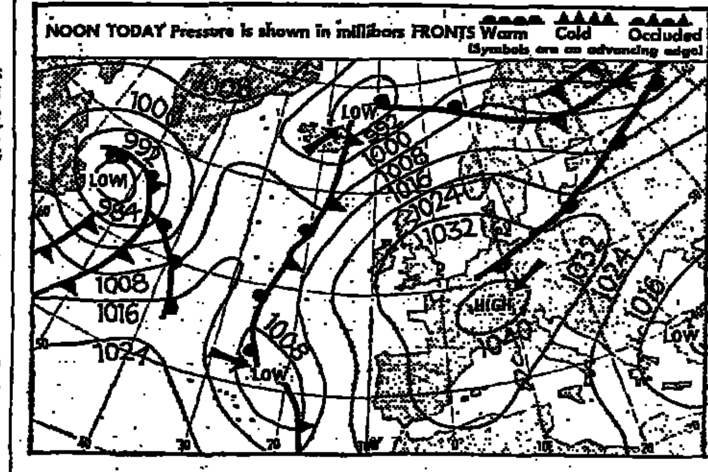
"The Act should be implemented immediately", the report added. The magazine said that safety was governed by the Reservoirs Act, 1930, which merely required all dams to be inspected every 10 years by an engineer.

That was not being done in many cases.

The report added that alarmingly, no one even knows where all Britain's dams are.

It continued: "It is nothing short of a public scandal that Parliament's wishes on a matter affecting public safety should have been flouted for so long by petty disagreements, prevarication and parsimony".

# Weather forecast and recordings




NOON TODAY

b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; rs—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

## Today

Sun rises: 7.45 am. Sun sets: 4.43 pm
Moon rises: 12.40 am. Moon sets: 11.20 am
Last quarter: 4.19 am.

Lighting up: 5.13 pm to 7.14 am.

High water: London Bridge, 6.48 am, 6m; 7.23 pm, 6m. Avonmouth, 11.57 am, 10.3m. Dover, 4.03 am, 5.8m; 4.37 pm, 5.3m. Hull, 11.26 am, 6m; 11.44 pm, 6.1m. Liverpool, 4.18 am, 7.4m; 4.34 pm, 7.4m.

1ft=0.3048m 1m=3.2808ft

Pressure will remain high over the British Isles.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, SE, central S. E, central N. England, East Anglia, Midlands: Fog patches, dense in places, early and late, some bright or sunny intervals; wind mainly S light; max temp 7°C (45°F) but 10°C (50°F) in sunnier parts.

Channel Islands, SW, NW England, Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland: Mainly dry, sunny intervals; wind S to SW, light or moderate; max temp 10° to 12°C (50° to 54°F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland: Mist or fog patches early and late, sunny periods developing; wind SW, moderate; max temp 9° to 11°C (48° to 52°F).

Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Mostly cloudy with outbreaks of drizzle, some sunny intervals; wind SW fresh or strong; max temp 9°C (48°F).

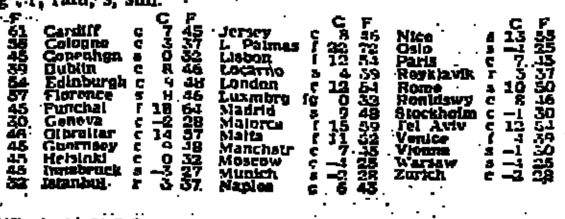
Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Mainly dry but foggy at times in England and Wales; changeable with some rain in Scotland and N Ireland.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind SW, light or moderate; sea smooth or slight. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind S or SW, moderate or fresh; sea slight or moderate.

## Yesterday

London: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 13°C (55°F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 9°C (48°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 82 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 6 pm, trace. Sun, 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.7 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1038.9 millibars, rising.

1,000 millibars=29.53 in.



WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain, s, sun.

| | | C | F | | | C | F | | | C | F | | | C | F |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Akrotiri | f | 16 | 61 | Cardiff | c | 7 | 45 | Jersey | c | 8 | 46 | Nice | s | 13 | 55 |
| Algiers | c | 13 | 55 | Cologne | c | 3 | 37 | L Palmas | f | 22 | 72 | Oslo | s | -4 | 25 |
| Amstrdm | fg | 7 | 45 | Copenhgn | s | 0 | 32 | Lisbon | f | 12 | 54 | Paris | c | 7 | 45 |
| Athens | f | 4 | 39 | Dublin | c | 8 | 46 | Locarno | s | 4 | 39 | Reykjavik | r | 3 | 37 |
| Barcelona | s | 12 | 54 | Edinburgh | c | 9 | 48 | London | c | 12 | 54 | Rome | s | 10 | 50 |
| Beirut | r | 14 | 57 | Florence | s | 8 | 46 | Luxmbrg | fg | 0 | 32 | Ronldswy | c | 8 | 46 |
| Belfast | c | 7 | 45 | Funchal | f | 18 | 64 | Madrid | s | 9 | 48 | Stockholm | c | -1 | 30 |
| Berlin | s | -1 | 30 | Geneva | c | -2 | 28 | Majorca | f | 15 | 59 | Tel Aviv | c | 12 | 54 |
| Biarritz | s | 9 | 48 | Gibraltar | c | 14 | 57 | Malta | f | 11 | 52 | Venice | f | 4 | 39 |
| Birmnghm | c | 7 | 45 | Guernsey | c | 9 | 48 | Manchstr | c | 7 | 45 | Vienna | s | -1 | 30 |
| Brussels | d | 7 | 45 | Helsinki | c | 0 | 32 | Moscow | c | -4 | 25 | Warsaw | s | -4 | 25 |
| Bristol | c | 7 | 45 | Innsbruck | s | -3 | 27 | Munich | s | -2 | 28 | Zurich | c | -2 | 28 |
| Budapest | f | 0 | 32 | Istanbul | r | 3 | 37 | Naples | c | 6 | 43 | | | | |

## Overseas selling prices

Australia $2; Austria Sch 20; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 35; Canaries Pes 100; Cyprus 450 mils; Denmark Dkr 5.50; Dubai Dh 7.00; Finland Mk 5; France Frs 4.50; Germany Dm 4.00; Greece Dr 50; Holland Gl 2.50; Iran IR 135; Iraq ID 0.500; Irish Republic 20p; Italy L 1100; Jordan JD 0.425; Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon Ll 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 50; Malta 20c; Morocco Dir 5.00; Norway Kr 6.00; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 10; Portugal Esc 50; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 5.25; Singapore $4.5; Spain Pes 100; Sweden Skr 5.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria LS 6.50; Tunisia Din .450; US and Canada $1.50; UAE Dhr 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 40.

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The engine delivers all you might expect from 6 cylinders. We'll just mention a top speed of 115 mph.*

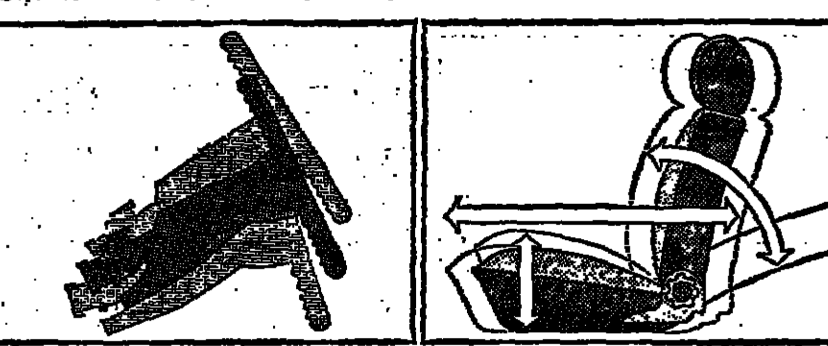
And because the engine develops maximum torque at only 3400 rpm, you never get the feeling it's overstretching itself, no matter how much of a hurry you're in.

**You'll feel good inside.**

The interior appointments could well be termed 'by appointment.' The doors lock centrally, the sun roof is steel and the radio/stereo cassette player has not two speakers but three.

The tinted windows are electrically operated as is the release for the saloon boot.

Each seat offers the comforts of crushed velour plus its own fully adjustable head restraint.



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Perhaps most important, the driver's seat adjusts for height as well as for reach and rake, and the steering wheel is tiltable. A couple of minor corrections could make you not only a more comfortable driver, but a much safer driver.

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You can see that the Royale has a beautifully aerodynamic shape.

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Also what the eagle-eyed amongst you won't have failed to notice is that the Coupé in our picture sports a '3 litre petrol injection' badge. (So does the Saloon, they're our latest additions. Royale 3 litre Saloon: £12,046. Royale 3 litre Coupé: £12,633).*

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ROYALE

HOME NEWS

# Action resumed by prison officers after court ruling

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Prison officers at Ashford Remand Centre have resumed industrial action after a High Court case against the national executive of their association. Because of the court decision officers at Gloucester have decided not to return to normal working.

Mr Justice Brown-Wilkinson ruled on Friday that the national executive of the Prison Officers' Association had acted unlawfully in instructing members to suspend industrial action. He ordered the union leaders to reinstate the action, but suspended the order for six weeks so that the special conference which had called for the action could be reconvened.

It is understood that the association sent out a circular yesterday saying that a delegate conference would be held soon, but did not give a date or venue. The circular is thought to have recommended that the suspension of industrial action should be continued pending further information from the national executive. Eleven branches are still engaged in some form of action over the dispute, which was about payment for meal breaks.

The Home Office has refused to go to arbitration over the claim for payments for meal breaks taken during extra duties. Instead Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, sees a new duty system as the solution to the dispute.

Mr Whitelaw acted yesterday to cut the prison population by about three hundred, by laying before Parliament an order allowing remission for good behaviour to anyone sentenced for more than five days and up to one month. The present qualifying period of more than one month is arbitrary.

He thinks it is right in principle to apply remission to as many prisoners as possible. The benefit will be felt most at crowded local establishments where short-term prisoners are normally held. The order will come into effect on February 23.

Prison population figures given yesterday showed an increase again after a big fall during the dispute. The January 19 total was 40,278, including those held in emergency accommodation. That had increased to 41,277 yesterday.

But in spite of the confusion following the court case people are still being moved from emergency accommodation to prison.

# Windmill as high as Big Ben for Orkney

By Nicholas Hirst

A windmill, which with its blades vertical will be almost as high as the clock tower of Big Ben, is planned to generate electricity in Orkney in 1983 or 1984.

The £5.6m project is the most ambitious renewable energy scheme yet to be given official support. All but £1m of the cost of the "aerogenerator" will be met by the Department of Energy, with the rest being provided by the North of Scotland Hydro Electric Board.

If successful, the project could go a long way to supplying electricity to the outlying Scottish islands, which, at the moment, are largely supplied by expensive diesel-driven generators.

The hydro board tried last year to impose a fuel surcharge on the islanders but was forced to withdraw it in the face of angry protests. As a result, a loss of about £8m is expected on providing electricity to Orkney-Shetland and the Western Isles this year.

Working at its full capacity of three megawatts, the aerogenerator will provide sufficient energy for 1,000 of the 8,000 domestic consumers, which will be fed into the island's grid.

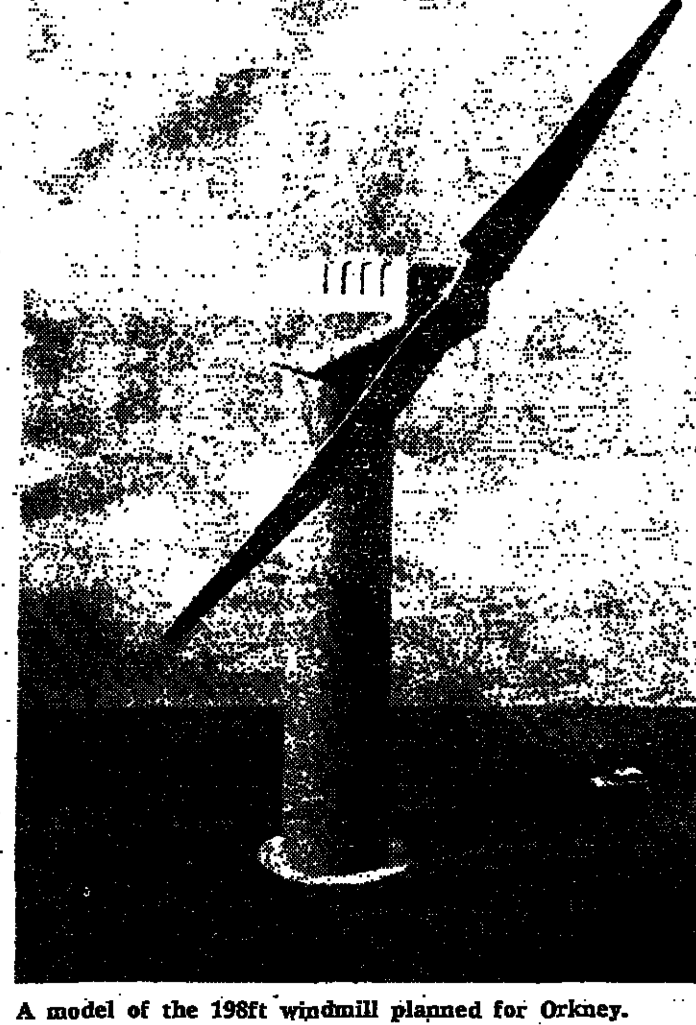
Planning consents for the project are required from the Secretary of State for Scotland and Orkney District Council before site work, expected to start in the spring of 1983, can begin, but no difficulties are expected.

A site has been chosen at Burgar Hill, two miles from the coast, to take best advantage of sea winds. It is remote from habitation.

A smaller machine with a 250 kilowatt capacity is planned to begin operation in October this year to provide experience for the running of the larger generator. Site work for the smaller machine, a twelfth the size of the commercial aerogenerator, is to begin in August.

The big machine needs winds of between 16 and 60 mph to function. Those speeds are common in Orkney.

The hydro board has been experimenting with wind power since the 1950s and started operating a 22 kilowatt generator on South Ronaldsway to serve a farm in December. That is 40ft high with 15ft blades.



A model of the 198ft windmill planned for Orkney.

# GLC to increase next year's rate by 17.6%

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

The Greater London Council is to increase its rate for the coming year by 17.6 per cent, a rise of 3.7p on the present rate of 21.7p, and well above the Government's guidelines on inflation.

Together with the likely increase in the Inner London Education Authority rate precept of 46 per cent, the loss by London authorities of government grant and the expressed intentions of some Labour councils not to reduce their services, this latest indication from the GLC means that rate increases in the London area will be very high, ranging from 20 to 70 per cent.

Mr Richard Brew, deputy leader of the GLC, announcing the proposed increase yesterday, said that the budget was being increased by only 7 per cent, "significantly lower than the current rate of inflation".

The Government allowed in the rate support grant for the year beginning in April an inflation of 6 per cent for pay and 11 per cent for prices, which together make about 7 per cent.

The GLC has been unable to confine its increase to that figure. A further 9 per cent was necessary because some of the council's expenditure last year was met from accumulated balances which are not available this year, and the remaining 2 per cent is caused by the loss of rate support grant.

The increase is considerably larger than the Conservative administration wanted, particularly as the GLC election takes place in May. Mr Brew emphasized that over the four years of its control, the council's average annual rate rise had been kept to a single figure.

"We are continuing our policy of taking note of the country's need to reduce public expenditure. Bearing in mind the extremely difficult financial times for local government and its ratepayers, we have made every attempt to keep the rate increase to an absolute minimum," he stated.

London has suffered a loss of government grant, which has been transferred to areas outside the main conurbations. The GLC has been particularly badly affected as well by the 18.8 per cent pay settlement for firemen, because that is a level well above the norm and one-third of the council's staff are firemen.

The announcement of a high GLC precept to go with the 46 per cent ILEA increase means that it will be almost impossible for rate increases in inner London to be lower than 20 per cent. Even Kensington and Chelsea, which aims to follow government guidelines, has given a warning of a big increase. The borough has lost government grant, and Mr Nigel Freeman, leader, predicts in the latest newsletter that the increase will be "very substantial indeed".

In the Labour-controlled boroughs of Lambeth and Camden, where increases will be in the order of 50 per cent or more, ratepayers' groups are gathering strength. In Lambeth supplementary rate bills have been burnt at protest meetings, and in Camden a new group has been launched with the intention of taking legal action against the council and encouraging people to withhold part of the rate bills.

# In brief

## Boxer's brother fined £1,400

Michael Martin Conteh, aged 22, brother of John Conteh, the boxer, was fined £1,400 and ordered to pay £4,000 compensation at Marlborough Street magistrates' court London, yesterday after admitting stealing a cheque card belonging to Mr V. Genovese and using the same man's American Express card to obtain £1,404 of jewelry by deception in January last year. He lives at Elm Park Road, Chelsea.

His flatmate, Timothy Hawkins, aged 25, a hairdresser, admitted offences of deception and was fined £220 and ordered to pay £240 compensation to National Westminster Bank.

## Parcel collection halted by strike

No parcels will be collected until further notice in Greater Manchester because of an unofficial strike by 1,300 postal workers, the Post Office said yesterday. Letters and packets are not affected by the strike.

## Yachtswoman cleared

Mrs Rosie Swale, yachtswoman and author, was cleared yesterday of soliciting as a prostitute in a London street.

Mrs Swale, aged 31, told magistrates at Bow Street that she was researching a novel based on prostitution and needed to interview men for background material.

## Union decision

The Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' executive yesterday decided not to appeal against the High Court decision that allowed Mr Jock McPherson Quinn, a Lambeth councillor, to attend last Saturday's Labour Party conference as a member of the union's delegation.

## Club can stay open

Kensington and Chelsea Council has failed in its attempt to close The Garden, a night club that opened in January, 1979, without planning permission. Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, overruled the council after a public inquiry.

## No action on steel leak

The Director of Public Prosecutions has decided that no further action should be taken over confidential papers that were alleged to have been taken from the British Steel Corporation at Workington.

## Boy on harm charge

A boy aged 13 was remanded on bail until February 26 at Bracknell Juvenile Court, Berkshire, yesterday accused of grievous bodily harm after an incident on Monday in which a teacher was stabbed in her classroom.

## Bridge fall girl saved

A girl aged 13 who fell on to the parapet of a footbridge over a railway line at Vanbrugh Hill, Greenwich, London, yesterday, was pulled to safety by Police Constable John Brown.

## Canal rescue by PC

Police Constable David Lawrence rescued a man from the South Yorkshire Canal in Rotherham yesterday by jumping into the water and holding the man up until help arrived.

# Girl is awarded £240,000 after hospital blunder

Tracey Clark, aged 16, who is paralysed by spinal injuries, won a £240,000 damages award in the High Court, London, yesterday. She is the victim of a hospital blunder four years ago and is confined to a wheelchair.

Miss Clark, of Cowper Avenue, Tilbury, Essex, was awarded the damages against Essex Area Health Authority, who admitted liability for her injuries.

She had a spinal operation at Basildon Hospital in January, 1977. "Afterwards she was not properly or effectively immobilized and she sat up in bed," said Mr Michael Morland, QC, her counsel. "This caused damage to the spinal cord and as a result she is paraplegic from the lower chest down."

The agreed damages include compensation for loss of educational and career prospects and "loss of companionship of people of her own age", Mr Morland said. The award would also allow her to buy a car and a suitable bungalow and would provide future nursing care.

# Association loses role as provider for homeless

By Our Social Services Correspondent

The Housing Corporation announced yesterday that it is ending the role of the Family Housing Association as a provider of accommodation for the homeless and is making it solely responsible for paying off an accumulated deficit of £925,000.

The decisions will mean that about 100 properties which could have provided 200 homes will be sold, about ten staff will be made redundant immediately, and the association will become a housing maintenance and management body.

The decisions also mean that the main recommendation of a special manager, appointed at the corporation's insistence last September, has been rejected. The special manager recommended that the association should be allowed to continue with a smaller development programme, producing 90 units a year compared with the average of 400 to 500 a year until 1978.

Although the special manager's report did not allocate blame for the association's financial difficulties, it did point out that the Department of the Environment had powers to waive the repayment of grants when properties were sold. That hint has not been taken up by the corporation's board.

The association's financial difficulties arose mainly from a moratorium imposed in 1978 on its building programme by the corporation and the Department of the Environment, when the association was faced with legal action because a proposal to buy an hotel fell through. The association won the case on appeal, but the moratorium continued for nine months, and a second one was imposed.

Miss Dorcas Ward, acting director of the association, said yesterday that she was disappointed that no responsibility had been accepted by the corporation or the department for the deficit, which she estimated at £850,000. The association would fight for its share of any deficit financing likely to be paid to other associations who were likely to have similar difficulties because of the Government's housing cuts.

The decision had ended the "cat and mouse" game played for the last three years, and meant the association could plan its future, even though it would be restricted.

# Ulster violence shown in decline

From a Staff Reporter
Belfast

A continued decline in the level of terrorist violence in Northern Ireland over the last year, especially in bombing and shooting incidents, is shown in figures issued yesterday.

However, they do not include the IRA's coordinated bombing campaign on Monday night when six bombs exploded across the province. There are fears that it was the start of a campaign aimed specifically at business property.

In Portadown, co Armagh, many shops, offices and some homes were badly damaged by a 400lb car bomb.

The new figures released by the Northern Ireland Office show that shooting incidents declined to 139 in the last three months of 1980, compared with 180 in the first three months of the year. Explosions declined from 108 in January to March to 30 in the last quarter.

Ten civilians died, five of them in sectarian and factional assassinations in the last quarter.

Four Army and Ulster Defence Regiment servicemen died between October and December compared with seven at the start of the year and there were no deaths among members of the RUC or its reserve. Throughout the rest of the year there had been nine such deaths.

Between October and December 115 people were charged with serious "security type offences", eight of them with murder. The figures for the first three months of the year were 166 and 26 respectively.

Paisley appeal: The Rev Ian Paisley yesterday called on Northern Ireland's unionist parties to bury their differences to fight a common campaign against what he called "the intended sell-out" of Ulster to Dublin by the British Government.

Housing aid: The Nationwide Building Society is to provide £5m for mortgages and improvements in five housing action areas of Belfast, where about 16,000 homes need improvements.

Death after hoax: A woman was killed when an Army bomb squad going to what turned out to be a hoax bomb call early yesterday was in collision with a car outside Strabane, co Tyrone (the Press Association reports).

She was named by police as Geraldine McSorley, a nurse aged 23, of Newtownstewart.

# IBA chief urges restraint on horror film advertising

By Kenneth Gosling

Commercials for horror films had caused the Independent Broadcasting Authority a few difficulties recently, Lord Thomson of Monifieth, chairman of the IBA, said yesterday.

Speaking at a conference on radio advertising control in London, Lord Thomson said there were a lot of people who enjoyed horror films and the IBA would not wish to stop them being advertised. However, there were many viewers and listeners who did not like them and had no wish to see them.

Because commercials come up unannounced, random and often repetitive within IBA rules, and by reason of the very power which makes them valuable to the advertiser, the commercials should be produced with due regard to the sensitivities of the vast majority of ordinary families—rather like a U trailer promoting an X certificated film.

Lord Thomson said there were those who tried to beat the system; the authority would have no hesitation in rejecting commercial ideas and proposals that tried to mislead or that included distasteful material likely to offend.

Recently, the IBA has received a number of complaints about the advertising of horror films on radio and television, and it has placed a timing restriction on some so that they can only be shown or heard during the late evening.

# Man cut racehorse's tail and mane 'for revenge'

From Our Correspondent
Dublin

Donan O'Sullivan, aged 20, a labourer, was given a suspended jail sentence and fined £30 at Clonmel District Court, co Tipperary, yesterday when he pleaded guilty to cutting the tail and hacking the mane of Storm Bird, the favourite for the Two Thousand Guineas and the Epsom Derby. The animal was not injured.

The incident occurred at the Tipperary stables of Vincent O'Brien, a leading trainer, last week.

Mr O'Sullivan said he had attacked the horse because he had a hatred and a grudge against the trainer. Describing Storm Bird as the best horse in Europe, he said he had not wanted to injure it but to use it as a way of getting revenge on Mr O'Brien.

Mr O'Sullivan said he was not satisfied with the trainer's treatment of his mother, brother and himself since his father, who had worked with Mr O'Brien all his life, died.

Witnesses told the court that there was no physical injury to the animal. The tail was a foot shorter than it should be and the mane was docked.

Mr O'Sullivan apologized and the magistrate said that because of his good character reference he would give him a two-month suspended sentence.

# Sex bias in tax plans is criticized

Removal of sex discrimination from the income tax system could be deferred indefinitely if proposals contained in the Government's recent consultative document on the taxation of husband and wife are accepted, Lady Lockwood, the chairman of the Equal Opportunities Commission, said yesterday.

She complained that the document failed to explain clearly why the system needed reform and that it did not adequately set out or examine the various options for change.

The present system discriminated between men and women on grounds of sex and marital status and was based on an outdated view of the role of women, Lady Lockwood said.

The Government's preferred proposal, which involves giving married couples the option of being taxed independently but does not do away with the principle of aggregating husband's and wife's incomes, did not overcome the fundamentally objectionable features of the present system.

The Equal Opportunities Commission believed that the individual rather than the family should be the basic unit for tax purposes. The consultative document's treatment of that issue was inadequate and often arbitrary, Lady Lockwood said.

She was speaking at a conference sponsored by the Institute for Fiscal Studies.

Mr Nicholas Morris, of the Institute for Fiscal Studies, another speaker at the conference, presented calculations to show that abolition of the married man's allowance, so that each earner receives a single person's allowance, would raise £2,600m in extra revenue. That would enable child benefit to be raised to £8.60 a week from its present £4.75.

# Government to back £55m Laker purchase

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

Although a consortium of British and foreign banks is providing £55m for Sir Freddie Laker, chairman of Laker Airways, to buy three European A300 airbuses, the deal is being backed by the British Government, a parliamentary answer disclosed yesterday.

British Aerospace, which is a 20 per cent partner in the consortium developing the A300 and the smaller A310, has undertaken to provide interest rate support to the banks financing the Laker deal and will, in turn, be reimbursed by the Government.

That backing will enable Laker Airways to pay for the duration of the loan a fixed interest rate broadly equivalent to that which would have been paid for competitive airliners from the United States, where the interest rate would have been supported by the United States Government.

The Department of Industry said last night: "The extent of the British taxpayer's commitment will depend on the movement of the interest rate over the whole period of the deal." The action was being taken under the terms of the Civil Aviation Act, 1949.

Similar interest-support arrangements were announced in the Commons in April last year for the purchase by British Caledonian Airways, another independent airline, based at Gatwick airport, of six A310s.

Such arrangements are agreed between the partner governments within the airbus consortium, led by France and West Germany, and are designed to fend off the competition from the aerospace industry in the United States.

The finance for the Laker purchase of three A300s was arranged by Midland Bank International. It came through banks in Britain, France, West Germany, Austria, the United States and Canada, and was over-subscribed.

# "Sus" Bill to be examined by MPs' committee

By Our Political Correspondent

For the first time a House of Commons committee charged with the duty of examining the detail of a government Bill will hear evidence from outside witnesses at three sessions before the Bill proceeds with the normal committee stage.

The committee set up to examine the Criminal Attempts Bill, which deals with a revision of the "sus" laws, will hear evidence from a government minister, a High Court judge and others on the proposals in the Bill.

Three sessions on February 3, 5 and 10 will be devoted to hearing evidence, the witnesses being subject to questions.

Sir Graham Page, Conservative MP for Crosby, a solicitor and a former minister for local government, is chairman of the committee. The minister invited to give evidence is Mr Patrick Mayhew, QC, Minister of State at the Home Office.

# Mr Benn says Labour should lead the movement for homosexual equality

By a Staff Reporter

Mr Wedgwood Benn yesterday called on the Labour movement to play a leading part in the campaign to achieve homosexual equality.

Speaking at a meeting in the House of Commons to launch a new booklet from the National Council for Civil Liberties (NCCL), he said that the Labour Party's National Executive Committee would soon be issuing a comprehensive policy document on homosexual rights.

Mr Benn, Labour MP for Bristol, South-East, who wrote the foreword to the booklet, *Gay Workers: Trade Unions and the Law*, said that homosexual people, like blacks and women, were particularly vulnerable to discrimination. "People who have 'come out' in the last two or three years by their own action make themselves vulnerable in an atmosphere of fear and suspicion caused by rising unemployment", he said.

He explained that he had taken up the issue because he was a great believer in civil liberties and in the rights of people to live their own lives in their own way. When the case of Mr John Saunders, who was dismissed for being homosexual, was reported, he had rung the NCCL in anger, Mr Benn said.

Mr Saunders's case has become a cause célèbre among homosexuals and is described in some detail in the pamphlet. He was dismissed from his job as a maintenance worker by the Scottish Camps Association when it was learnt he was homosexual.

An industrial tribunal found his employers were justified in dismissing him because of the widely held belief that homosexuals were a risk to children.

Mr Benn said that Labour's policy document, which should contain a binding pledge on future legislation to end homosexual discrimination, would be put into practice when the party was next in office.

"The present inequality relating among other things to the definition of privacy, the differing ages of consent, the exclusion of the Armed Services and the Merchant Navy cannot be justified and must be completely swept away from the statute books", he said.

*Gay Workers: Trade Unions and the Law* (National Council for Civil Liberties, 186 King's Cross Road, London WC1X 9DE, £1.20).

# Legal action sought in Rampton man's case

By Lucy Hodges

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, has been asked to take legal action against a local authority which is refusing to accept a patient from Rampton special hospital who is ready for release to a hostel.

MIND, the mental health charity, has written to the minister urging him to use his legal powers to force Kent County Council to accept a man who had been waiting three years to leave the high security hospital in Nottinghamshire.

There is complete agreement among the man's doctors and social workers, the mental health review tribunal and successive Home Secretaries that the patient should not be in any hospital, Mr Larry Gostin, legal director of MIND, says.

Mr Jenkin's attention is drawn to the report by the Boynton committee into the management of Rampton, published last November, which referred to the "scandal" of patients fit for transfer who could not leave the hospital.

MIND considers the council is breaking the law because it says it has a statutory duty to provide accommodation for such people. The council strongly denies that and says Islington Borough Council, where the man came from, has legal obligations towards him.

Islington has agreed to pay for the man, who wishes to remain anonymous, to be housed in Kent because he wishes to be there, near a relation. Kent County Council said yesterday that it had tried to help the man, but had been unable to do so because three local psychiatric hospitals refused to take him and it had been decided he should not go to a hostel in Ashford.

The council said it was agreed that the man ought to be transferred to a hospital rather than a hostel, where he would receive the necessary support. Part of the reason for him being rejected for the hostel was that the staff there had had considerable management difficulties with another former special hospital patient

MIND replied that the council was evading responsibility. "The patient has pursued every available lawful procedure that any human being has and has been declared fit for release", Mr Gostin said. "Yet he is still in a maximum security hospital."

The difficulty patients have in being transferred from special hospitals to places in the community is well known and widespread, and the Government is increasingly realizing that something should be done about it.

# Government proposal for taking colleges from council control likely to receive mixed response

By Diana Geddes
*Education Correspondent*

Some local authorities will protest noisily over government plans to remove polytechnics and higher education colleges from local authority control, but many will be secretly relieved to have the financial burden lifted, and most will come to accept with resignation the radical change.

That is the view of most local authority leaders and education officials consulted on the plans.

The Department of Education and Science has drawn up outline proposals approved by Mr Rhodes Boyson, the minister with responsibility for higher education, which are circulating in Whitehall as an internal consultative document.

The proposals involve a new semi - independent, national body along the lines of the University Grants Committee, which would be responsible for allocating government funds to polytechnics and other maintained colleges with a large proportion of higher education students.

At present, all maintained institutions of higher education are financed and managed by local authorities. The polytechnics have long pressed for their removal from local authority control.

The Government hopes to have a public consultative document ready by early summer before a White Paper, which would be followed almost certainly by the legislation necessary to set up the new body.

It is likely that the new body would not have direct representation of particular interest groups, but rather it would be made up of eminent people drawn from higher education, industry and local government, but appointed in a personal capacity.

Polytechnics are certain not to have fulfilled their other wish for complete autonomy; their degree courses will still have to be approved by the Council for National Academic Awards (CNAA), but they are likely to be given greater control over budgets, subject to any guidance or directions given by the new national body.

The Government would like the new body to have some say over higher education courses in the maintained sector, but how that would be achieved remains to be answered.

Mr Boyson is known to want some regional dimension involved in the planning of maintained higher education, but again the details are still to be worked out. It is possible that the existing regional advisory councils could be used for that purpose.

Another unanswered question is: Which colleges should be included under the new national body and which left to local authority control? There are about 100 polytechnics and colleges with 60 per cent or more of their work in higher education. Should they all be included?

Mrs Angela Rumbold, Conservative leader of Kingston council and the chairman of the Council of Local Education Authorities last year, has described the plans as "a grab for power by central government". She warned heads of maintained colleges at a conference last week that the scheme could force the closure of some colleges and create big changes in others.

That kind of public outcry is expected. In private, some even agree that it would be better for higher education to be nationally administered. The Labour-controlled metropolitan authorities with polytechnics in their area are expected to protest loudest.

# BBC and Equity agree on pay

By Kenneth Gosling

The BBC yesterday gave a guarantee to maintain employment levels for 1981-82 when agreement was announced with Equity, the actors' union, on new pay rates for television appearances.

The union accepted the BBC's fourth offer, a 10 per cent increase in the overall artists' budget from February 7 to April 1 and 15 per cent to December 31, with a new agreement from January 1, 1982.

The 15 per cent increase was previously to have run until February 1, 1982. The employment guarantee was regarded as of great importance by Equity.

The BBC reiterated its intention, if its financial position improves, to narrow the gap in artists' fees paid by it and the independent television companies.

The gap was greater than it would like, it said. Mr Alsadair Milne, the managing director of BBC Television, said that economies would be sought to pay for the £1.3m the agreement would cost. The increase averages 12.8 per cent over the year.

Mr Peter Plouviez, general secretary of Equity, said: "We are extremely hopeful that this represents a very real change in the pattern of negotiations over recent years.

"We think the BBC are now convinced, for the first time and at a higher level, that they have neglected the place of the performer in their overall operation."

When the full award is implemented, the basic weekly fee will rise from £125 to 141. Independent television's basic figure is £215.

The BBC had formerly said that any increase over 10 per cent would mean automatic loss of employment. Yesterday's agreement cancels that.



Photograph by Harry Kerr

New graduates: Lieutenant Roland Playford, RM; Mr Graham Franklin, fishmonger; and WPC Angela Frederick.

# Mandatory grants to Open University students rejected

By Our Education Correspondent

High praise for students and staff at the Open University came from Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, yesterday, but he ruled out any chance in the immediate future of introducing mandatory grants for the students.

Mr Carlisle said at an Open University press conference in London that 45,000 students have graduated from that university since it began in 1971. One in 16 of all new graduates in Britain come from that university.

Some people looked down on the university's degrees, but they were misguided, he said. For as well as saying as much about a person's academic status as any other degree, it said a great deal more about his character, initiative and perseverance, qualities that employers would do well to bear in mind.

Mr Carlisle said that his secretary was an Open University graduate, so he had some idea of the effort it took to complete such a degree. Most students had to overcome the pressures and practical difficulties involved in "distance" learning while at the same time holding down full-time jobs or looking after their homes.

On the Government's decision to increase the university's undergraduate course fees next year by nearly half to £98, Mr Carlisle said that at a time when other sectors of education had to make savings, the students should be asked to make an increased contribution toards the cost.

The Government grant to the university this year was £45m and the taxpayer subsidized 90 per cent of the cost of a student's course. The fee increase would make that about 87 per cent.

A survey published yesterday shows that an ncreasing proportion of new Open University graduates had less than normal university entrance requirements when they started their degrees; tha tapplied to a quarter of this year's graduates, and 4 per cent had started with no formal examination qualifications at all.

Of the students who started in 1971, 56 per cent have completed their degrees.

# Rise in number of abortions

In 1979, 120,611 legal abortions were performed on women normally living in England and Wales, an increase of about 8,600 over 1978.

More than half the women involved were single. A total of 3,534 girls under 16 had abortions, against 3,298 in 1978.

# Court clears man who says he was framed

A man who claimed that the police planted a small amount of cannabis on him during a betting shop raid was cleared by the Court of Appeal yesterday of possessing the drug.

Lascelles Gordon, aged 37, unemployed, of Pytchley Road, East Dulwich, London, who was fined £100 at the Central Criminal Court on January 11, 1979, had his conviction quashed and sentence set aside.

Mr Justice Hodgson said Mr Gordon had not raised the defence that he had been framed until his trial, but it was his common law right to remain silent.

Judge Grieve had told the jury that they could draw any adverse inference from Mr Gordon's non-protestation of innocence.

Mr Justice Hodgson added: "This was the plainest possible invitation to the jury to take as indictative of guilt, the fact that this appellant had exercised his common law right of silence." But for the Judge's words Mr Gordon might have been acquitted.

# MP says jobless men were told to advertise

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

A Labour MP is protesting that pressure is being put on unemployed family men to advertise themselves as available for work as a condition of keeping their right to supplementary benefits.

Mr Frank Field, MP for Birkenhead, discloses today that three constituents were interviewed in a locked room and told they would lose their benefits unless they agreed to pay to advertise their availability.

Mr Field has written to Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, pointing out that his intervention has restored the men's benefit, and asking how he can rebut the charge that the Government's anti-fraud drive is being used to deny honest claimants benefits to which they are entitled.

In his letter, Mr Field says that the three men have been unemployed for a considerable time, which is not surprising in view of the high unemployment in Birkenhead. All are responsible for young children.

They told him that they felt they had been interrogated, rather than interviewed, and they were told that benefit would be stopped. They said they were nervous, "not to say terrified" during the interview. They were told their right to benefit might continue for a short time if they signed a letter, of which they were not allowed a copy.

"The gist of the leters was that they would spend part of their weekly benefit in advertising either in the local paper or in having bills printed to be distributed on a house to house basis advertising the fact that they were looking for work," Mr Field wrote.

He said yesterday that supplementary benefits were recognized to be the minimum subsistence level and were not high enough to allow for advertising costs. It was the task of the Department of Employment to find work but the local Jobcentre had told him it had not been approached by the local social security office for information about jobs that could be used in such interviews.

"This is a vicious move that illustrates a deeper problem: the widening gap between the Department of Health and Social Security, who pay benefits, and the Department of Employment, who attempt to find work."

Mr Field has asked Mr Jenkin to give him copies of the letters signed by his constituents and for his response to important policy considerations raised by the cases. He is asking whether the interviews were normal procedure or part of the anti-fraud drive for which the Government has set a rargetk of saving £50m a year.

# Thames TV fails to get ban on film lifted

Thames Television failed in the Court of Appeal yesterday in its attempt to have lifted an injunction banning it from screening a documentary film about Primodos, the pregnancy testing drug at tht centre of pending damages claims.

By a majority, Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, dissenting, the court dismissed Thames TV's appeal from the ban granted last August, on screening the film *The Primodos Affair*. The injunction was in favour of Schering Chemicals Ltd, the British subsidiary of a West German company.

It is contesting two damages claims by parents who say their children were born with malformations as a result of their mothers taking Primodos, which was withdrawn in 1978.

Schering was awarded two-thirds of the costs.

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# Mrs Castle deplores small percentage of woman members of Parliament

By Frances Gibb

Britain has the lowest percentage of women in parliament of any of the European countries, Mrs Barbara Castle, leader of the British Labour Group in the European Parliament, told a conference in London yesterday.

"History has given us the suffragettes; the forgers of freedom for women, but only 3 per cent of our Parliament is made up of women" she told a conference on "Equal Rights under Attack" organized by the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff.

By comparison, Denmark had 23.5 per cent; The Netherlands 14.7 per cent; Luxembourg 13.6 per cent; Belgium 11.8 per cent; Italy 8.3 per cent: Germany 8 per cent; Ireland 7.1 per cent and France 4.3 per cent. "In Britain we cannot hold up our heads over that", she said.

But Mrs Castle told the conference, attended by about 40 delegates, that Britain led Europe in the use of its legislation for sex equality. Implementation of the Equal Pay Act, 1975 had been more effective in Britain than anywhere else in the European Community.

The ad hoc committee on women's rights of the European Parliament had just published a report, to be debated next month, which showed that complaints against pay discrimination in other member states had been almost non-existent. "But in the United Kingdom they have been spectacular."

"In Luxembourg and Denmark, the report points out, there has been no recourse to the courts over equal pay. In Denmark and West Germany, there is no administrative supervision of the equal pay laws by the authorities. In Italy last year only 10 cases of pay discrimination were taken through the courts."

In the United Kingdom, Mrs Castle said, the full implementation of the Act was followed by a flood of applications to tribunals. The total of 1,742 had now decreased to 343 because a number of test cases had been settled but that figure was still way ahead of elsewhere.

The trade unions had a vital role to play in making sex equality a reality, Mrs Castle said. "There is still a long way to go. There are still far too few women in trade unions and the unions are not likely to recruit them as long as they present an almost exclusively male front in their top jobs and in their conferences."

Trade unions should use their position in the Labour Party to get more women into Parliament, she said. Passing laws was only the first stage. "It is up to women to implement them, improve them and change attitudes. And it is up to the trade unions to give women that opportunity."

# Budgerigar owners warned of disease

From Our Correspondent
Sheffield

A coroner yesterday warned budgerigar owners about a rare, fatal illness that could be caused by the birds. He was speaking at an inquest into the death of Mrs Florence Fryer, of Chaucer Road, Sheffield.

Dr Herbert Pilling, coroner for South Yorkshire, west, said: "I am not trying to cause a panic because few people are likely to develop this disease when they come into contact with budgerigars. It is the first time I have come across it and I feel it is so rare it should be given some publicity.

The inquest was told that Mrs Fryer, aged 57, bought the bird seven years ago and began feeling ill two years later. She had chest pains

Doctors were unable to diagnose her illness until 12 months ago, by which time it was too late. She was admitted to hospital a week ago and died a day later.

Dr Elspeth Alstead, medical registrar, told the coroner the cause of death was respiratory failure caused by budgerigar disease.

"The disease is caused by allergic reaction to inhaled substances from certain proteins contained in budgerigars, usually caused by the droppings. It only occurs in certain individuals who become sensitized to these dusts."

The coroner said any budgerigar owner who suffered symptoms similar to Mrs Fryer's would be advised to get rid of the bird and seek immediate medical help.

The coroner recorded a verdict of death from natural causes.

HOME NEWS

# BMA aims to improve city health care by incentive payments

By Nicholas Timmins

The British Medical Association has proposed a series of incentive payments to doctors, nurses and health visitors in inner cities and other areas with poor family doctor services to try to stop the falling quality of such care.

The proposals are aimed at encouraging family doctors in such areas to retire earlier, and at increasing their income to meet the higher costs.

They would discourage general practitioners from running lists of only 1,000 patients which allows the doctor to claim most of the basic National Health Service allowances and to earn extra income from private or other work outside the health service. They would also discourage doctors from maximizing their income by taking on so many patients that they cannot provide proper care.

The proposals have gone to the Primary Health Care Study Group, which is due to report to the Department of Health later this year, and they have been sympathetically received by some of its members.

There has been increasing concern about the standard of care in some inner city areas. A report prepared by the Royal College of General Practitioners has shown that inner London has on average more doctors with small lists of patients, more with very large lists, more aged over 70 and more working single-handed than in the rest of the country.

In Kensington, Chelsea and Westminster, one of the worst areas, one general practitioner in eight is aged over 70, and one in six has a list of fewer than 1,000 patients.

Figures for 1977 show that on average England and Wales have barely one general practitioner in 20 aged over 65, and fewer than one in 50 have lists of less than 1,000 patients.

In Kensington, Chelsea and Westminster, more than three doctors in a hundred had lists of more than 3,500 patients in 1977, compared with fewer than two a hundred in the rest of the country, where the average list is about 2,200.

The British Medical Association said yesterday that the difficulties of running good family doctor services included a very mobile population, high turnover of nursing staff and high costs.

The association said also that a doctor might be refused permission to start a practice in inner London because the proportion of general practitioners to population is high.

The BMA's proposals would allow doctors working in underprivileged areas one year's credit towards retirement for every five years worked, so that a doctor who worked there throughout his career could retire at 55. Extra payments would be made when a new patient registered, and for night visits. In addition, a higher annual capitation fee would be paid for each patient, but only for doctors with lists of between 1,500 and 2,500 patients.

## £540,000 for research into medical inequalities

From John Chartres
Manchester

A grant of £540,000 has been made by the Department of Health and Social Security to the department of general practice at Manchester University for research into inequalities of medical care in underprivileged inner city areas.

Concern about such inequalities was expressed in the 1980 royal commission report on the National Health Service and by the DHSS working group chaired by Professor Sir Douglas Black, former professor of medicine at Manchester University and chief scientist to the department.

The university said yesterday that despite the concern, there was little detailed information about the extent and nature of the variations in medical services in the inner cities compared with other areas.

The grant will support a DHSS research unit directed by Professor David Metcalfe, professor of general practice, initially for six years. It will concentrate at first on the relatively unhealthy areas of Manchester and Salford.

More than 600 general practitioners will be interviewed about aspects of health that confront them in their surgeries and on visits, and about their own practices and attitudes. The accessibility and acceptability of doctors, community nurses, health visitors and social workers will also be considered.

Child mortality, page 9

## Man denies he intended to harm stepson

A man alleged to have ill-treated his stepson, aged two-and-a-half, by ducking him in a swimming pool, denied at Leeds Crown Court yesterday that he had any intention of harming the boy.

Steven James Greenwood said the boy "went under the water two, possibly three, times at the most, but I had no intention of harming him in any shape or form.

Mr Greenwood, aged 28, a bus driver, of Town Street, Stanningley, Leeds, has pleaded not guilty to wilfully ill-treating or exposing Terence Benjamin Ryan in a manner likely to cause him unnecessary suffering or injury to health.

The trial continues today.

## Customs seeking 2,000 who overpaid duty

The Customs and Excise department is trying to trace two thousand people who have been overcharged duty on cars imported into Britain.

The errors emerged during an investigation by the Ombudsman into the case of a Briton returning to this country who was given wrong information by a Customs officer as to when he could resell his imported car without paying duty and value-added tax.

When he came to sell his car he was faced with an unexpected bill of £213 for customs charges but during the Ombudsman's inquiry into the case an error in assessing charges was found.

Charges can be assessed in two ways: on the value of the car at the time of import and the rates of duty and tax in force at that time; or the value of the car when it is sold and the rates in force then.

Customs charge whichever is the lower and in recent years that has invariably been the second option; but when VAT went up from 8 to 15 per cent in 1979 it made the first option more favourable.

Customs say 2,000 people have been overcharged by more than £5.

## Money too hot for thieves

Thieves worked through the night to open a safe, but when they eventually burnt off its side at offices of agricultural engineers in Banbury they found only charred banknotes and cheques.

The owner said the heat from the thieves' cutting equipment set fire to the contents of about £150 in notes and cheques.



WEST EUROPE AND OVERSEAS

Left wing fights against pay restraint programme

# Belgian Socialist leader resigns

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Jan 27

Against a background of deepening economic crisis and mounting social unrest, the Belgian Government has been dealt a severe blow by the announcement that the leader of one of the two main parties in the coalition is to resign.

Mr André Cools, president of the Socialist Party, which governs in partnership with the Christian Democrats, disclosed last night that he will not be standing for reelection at his party's congress next month.

The decision comes after a period of increasing tension between Mr Cools and left-wing members of his party and the FGTB, the socialist-affiliated trade union organization, over his support for the Government's economic recovery plan, which includes a two-year freeze on wage rises.

The last straw for Mr Cools, it appears, was the decision last week of several Socialist MPs to vote against the pay restraint policy.

Mr Cools has been a powerful ally of Mr Wilfried Martens, the Prime Minister, who is a Flemish Christian Democrat. Even if Mr Cools is replaced, as is thought likely, by Mr Guy Spitaels, the Deputy Prime Minister, who also supports the economic austerity measures, growing dissension within the Socialist Party and trade union estrangement could bring down the coalition.

Steel workers in Liège came out on strike today in protest against a government plan to merge Belgium's biggest steel-making concern, which would put between 2,000 and 4,000 men out of work. Steel workers in Charleroi are already on strike.

At Verviers and Tubize, also in the economically depressed French-speaking southern half of the country, groups of textile workers have been on a hunger strike this month because of threatened plant closures.

Other textile workers have been blocking road and rail links to and from the two towns during certain hours of the day, causing the diversion of domestic and international traffic.

To add to its troubles, the Government learnt from British Leyland today that the decision to close the company's Belgian assembly plant for Allegros and Minis at Seneffe was "irrevocable". Belgium will now try to persuade a Japanese car manufacturer to take the plant over and save the 2,800 jobs at risk. Anti-British feeling is running high at the plant, which has never had a strike or a work stoppage in 17 years.

Mr Peter Wakefield, the British Ambassador to Belgium, has been summoned to a meeting with Mr Martens tomorrow in what is seen as a last-ditch effort to prevent closure of the plant and save jobs.

The growing industrial unrest follows a demonstration last weekend in Brussels by between 80,000 and 100,000 trade unionists against the Government's economic austerity programme. It is feared that this could signal the end of union passivity in the face of rising unemployment levels, already the highest in Europe.

A victim of the Laingsburg floods is reunited with her daughters after being rescued from the Buffels river which carried her and her husband more than 10 miles.

## Bonn's defence budget survives revolt by left

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, Jan 27

An attempt by 24 left-wing Social Democrats to have West Germany's defence budget reduced by DM 1,000m (about £210m) has been firmly stifled by the SPD parliamentary party.

Its rejection has removed for the present one of the many problems besetting Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, while yet more have come to a head.

The resolution by the 24 left-wingers to switch DM1,000m from the defence budget to development aid has been interpreted here as an indirect move against the dual Nato decision on medium-range nuclear missiles, which is a fundamental pillar of the Chancellor's defence policy.

As well as the production and stationing of medium-range nuclear missiles, the decision provides for negotiations with the Soviet Union on a balanced reduction of missile numbers.

It was the first time the restless SPD had flexed its muscles in the new Bundestag. During the last parliament, when Herr Schmidt had a much narrower majority, a smaller group of left-wingers had on occasions forced him to modify legislation and sometimes left the coalition in a minority.

Now Herr Schmidt's majority is bigger, but so is the left wing. About a quarter of the 218 deputies are rated as left-wingers.

As it was, the move by the 24 did not get far. After a long discussion last night, the parliamentary party approved a resolution presented by its executive ruling out any cuts in defence spending and calling for efforts to increase development aid.

Thirty-seven deputies voted against the resolution. Their reasons were not given, but it looked as if the group of 24 had attracted some supporters.

Earlier, Herr Schmidt, Herr Willy Brandt, the party chairman, and Herr Hans Apel, the Defence Minister, spoke emphatically against any tampering with the Government's defence policy. They pointed out that West Germany had international defence commitments which could not be changed for domestic considerations.

They also argued that it was essential that West Germany's defence policy should be considered reliable and constant by its allies, otherwise its influence, particularly in the United States, would suffer.

A spokesman for the Free Democrats, the SPD's coalition partners, gave warning earlier that if the move by the 24 was not suppressed the coalition would be in danger of falling apart.

Disagreement and discontent in the coalition are one of the Chancellor's biggest problems, and today he moved to tackle the most intractable issue.

He decided to take personal charge of efforts to reach a compromise between the FDP and the SPD on adjustments to *Mitbestimmung*, the laws concerning worker participation on the supervisory boards of the coal and steel industry.

The highly complex issue has brought into conflict basic principles of the two parties on which both are reluctant to yield, they failed to reach agreement on it during the coalition negotiations after the October elections, and efforts to reach a compromise have severely strained the partnership.

An attempt by the Chancellor and other SPD leaders to settle another tricky problem has, in effect, failed. They could not agree a common position with the north German Social Democrats over the future of a big nuclear power station at Brokdorf, north of Hamburg.

For a variety of reasons both the local Social Democrats and the Free Democrats are divided among themselves about Brokdorf, which has been the scene of violent anti-nuclear protest demonstrations. The meeting ended with a somewhat lame recommendation to local politicians, local authorities and firms to seek the broadest possible agreement on energy policy.

Leading article, page 15

## W Germans join fray in EEC fishing debate

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Jan 27

The crisis over EEC fisheries policy deepened here today as agriculture ministers failed to break the deadlock reached last December, and became involved in a new dispute.

This was a demand from Herr Josef Ertl, the West German minister, for swift ratification of an EEC agreement with Canada on reciprocal fishing rights.

It would permit Community vessels to catch 14,500 tonnes of cod and 7,000 tonnes of squid in Canadian waters this year, in return for tariff concessions on Canadian fish exports, mainly to Britain.

The West German deep sea fleet would get the major share of this catch, and their fishermen, who are mounting a protest blockade of Cuxhaven and threatening to extend it to other ports, say they must have access to Canadian waters by the end of February because encroaching winter ice will make fishing impossible after March.

Notification was held up mainly by Britain. Mr Peter Walker, the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, told an angry and table-thumping Herr Ertl that there was "no way the British Government could agree to the Canadian deal except as part of a general fisheries settlement".

Discussions on the share-out between member states of the fish caught within the EEC's 200-mile limits, and of the related issue of access to coastal waters broke no new ground.

Negotiations on these two questions broke down last month, mainly because of French resistance to Britain's demands for control of the activity of foreign vessels in its coastal fishing grounds

The ministers will meet again in Brussels on February 9 and 10.

## Relief funds set up for flood victims

From Our Own Correspondent
Johannesburg, Jan 27

While rescue workers continued their search for victims of the Laingsburg floods, Mr Pieter Botha, the South African Prime Minister, announced today that he had set up a special Cabinet committee to assess the damage and losses in the disaster area.

President Marais Viljoen has set up a relief fund for flood victims. Several organizations, including a Cape Town newspaper and a supermarket chain, have also set up their own disaster funds.

An official death toll has still not been announced. However, authoritative sources said it was certain to be more than 100 dead and could be as high as 200, making it South Africa's worst natural disaster.

So far rescue workers, including the police, Army, Air Force and civilians, have found only a few bodies. It is feared that many of the victims may never be found as their bodies are hidden under tons of mud. Some survivors were dragged as far as 13 miles by the raging Buffels river before reaching safety.

Laingsburg was the town most seriously affected by the flood, but other towns and villages in the south-western Cape were also damaged. They include Ladysmith, Worcester, Montagu, Robertson and Swellendam. Millions of pounds worth of damage has been done to crops and livestock.

## Boy is shot dead in Copperbelt mine riot

Lusaka, Jan 27.—A 14-year-old boy was shot dead and about 50 people were injured when police stepped in yesterday to quell a riot at a mine township in the Zambian Copperbelt, the official press reported today.

The death was the first reported in more than a week of industrial unrest which began in the country's vital copper and cobalt industry and spread to the banking and insurance sector.

The *Times of Zambia*, run by the ruling United National Independence Party, said the shooting took place when police moved in to break up a riot and a bullet hit the boy, who was walking home from school. The shooting angered the crowd, which went through the township stoning vehicles and setting up roadblocks, the paper said.—Reuter.

*Serious challenge*: The labour unrest on the Copperbelt poses the most serious challenge to President Kaunda's rule since last October's alleged coup attempt which led to the detention of a number of prominent Zambians (Nicholas Ashford writes from Johannesburg).

The mineworkers, who have been striking in protest at the dismissal from Unip of 17 senior trade union officials, have the power to inflict extensive damage to Zambia's already shaky economy because the copper they produce generates 95 per cent of the country's foreign exchange earnings.

Furthermore, the Mineworkers Union of Zambia and the Zambian Congress of Trade Unions to which the expelled officials belonged, are the most powerful organizations in the country not controlled by the party.

The unions and the government have been on a collision course since last year. At one stage it looked as though a general strike would be called and President Kaunda only managed to head this off by threatening to implicate the unions in last year's coup attempt.

Officially, the unions' growing opposition to President Kaunda's Administration is due to the Government's failure to improve pay and conditions of employment. However, there are important political factors as well. In particular, they want to curb the growing power of the party and especially the party's Central Committee, the country's chief policy-making body.

The party's decision to expel the union leaders followed continuous union opposition to a new system of local government introduced last year. The system requires both voters and candidates in local government elections to be party members, and is the main plank in the party's attempts to consolidate the nation's policies under its control.

The unions have argued that the new local government system created a costly new bureaucracy when scarce funds would be better spent on creating jobs and improving social services.

The Government believes that the trades unions' activities have begun taking on political overtonnes.

## Mr Nkomo takes on new Cabinet tasks in Salisbury compromise

From Stephen Taylor
Salisbury, Jan 27

The crisis threatening Zimbabwe's coalition Government passed tonight with a statement by Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, that a compromise had been reached over the position in the Cabinet of Mr Joshua Nkomo, leader of the minority Patriotic Front party.

Mr Nkomo, who was demoted in the Cabinet reshuffle two weeks ago and offered the portfolio of Minister of Public Services, had been appointed Minister Without Portfolio with special responsibilities, Mr Mugabe said in the statement.

The agreement between the two men comes after a week in which they are believed to have met almost daily. The Patriotic Front Central Committee had earlier passed a document to Mr Mugabe, stating anxiety over the fact that the replacement of Mr Nkomo as Minister of Home Affairs effectively deprived the party of any say in matters of security.

Under the agreement Mr Nkomo retains his position on the Cabinet committee on security, and will take on additional responsibilities by assisting Mr Mugabe in his role as Minister of Defence.

Mr Mugabe's statement said: "I will assign to Comrade Nkomo certain specific tasks from time to time which in my judgment require specific handling in the national interest.

"The inister Without Portfolio will continue to be a member of the Cabinet committee on public security."

In a clear reference to the danger, frequently mentioned in the past two weeks of confrontation between Zipra guerrillas who support Mr Nkomo and the Zanla forces of Mr Mugabe's Zanu (PF) Party, the statement cointinued: "Comrade Nkomo will assist the Minister of Defence with the integratin process of our forces by ensuring that our Zipra comrades participate alongside Zanla in the speedy creation of one united Zimbabwe National Army, and in ensuring the establishment of an imacable relationship between Zanla and Zipra and the general public in pursuance of peace and national security."

The statement added: "With immediate effect, the Ministry of Public Service will come under the Prime Minister. Comrade Nkomo will assist me with some of these functions."

Mr oJsiah Chinamano, Mr Nkomo's main aide, will take over the portfolio of Transport, as Mr Mugabe had suggested in announcing the cabinet reshuffle. Mr Chinamano does not have a seat in the House of Assembly, but may be appointed by the Patriotic Front to fill the seat vacated by Mr Ariston Chambati, who has been appointed Ambassador to West Germany.

The only rmemaining element in the compromise formula still to be disclosed is whether Mr Nkomo has successfullwy negotiated further deputy ministries for his party.

It is believed that in the document sent to Mr Mugabe he sought further posts to the additional one deputy ministry offered by the Prime Minister. The list of new deputy ministers is to be announced on Thursday.

*American aid*: The United States is to provide Zimbabwe with a further $20m (£8.3m) for education, health and agricultural projects under a nagreement signed here today.

The grant brings to about $50m the aid provided by Washington to Mr Mugabe's Government since independence last year.

Foreign aid is a vital part of the Government's programme to acquire land owned by white farmers and redistribute it among blacks. Mr Mugabe has said that the amount contributed by Britain for this project has been "far from adequate".

## Government in Uganda disowns food price order

From Our Correspondent
Nairobi, Jan 27

An order to market vendors and small traders in Kampala to reduce the prices of their goods drastically — which had resulted in a serious shortage of food — was disowned today by the Ugandan government.

Radio Uganda quoted Mr Sam Mugwisha, the Agriculture Minister, as saying that the order to cut prices had not been made by the Government, but by the local branch of the ruling Uganda People's Congress (UPC) without his ministry's backing.

Traders should ignore that original order from the Kampala market authorities and should charge "fair prices", he said.

Kampala residents, desperately searching for food, found little available at any price today. The normally busy market was still almost deserted, and the vendors said they were confused by the abrupt change. But it appeared that food supplies would soon be resumed, at prices close to those being charged last week.

Chaos was caused at the weekend when the market authorities and the UPC ordered a sharp reduction in the prices of key commodities.

## Eight doctors in Paris test case on abortion

From Ian Murray
Paris, Jan 27

Eight doctors have gone on trial in Paris in a test case over the abortion law. Although they are accused of making a fortune by abusing the law, it is clear as the case progresses that it is the law itself—first introduced in 1975—which is on trial.

The case concerns the events at a clinic called La Pergola in a poor district of northern Paris. The police began their inquiry there after one of the doctors, horrified that an abortion had been carried out on a girl who was five months pregnant, reported the matter. He is himself now one of the eight accused.

The two main offences of which the doctors are accused concern either carrying out abortions on minors or on women whose pregnancy was further advanced than the tenth week. In the background is evidence that up to 15,000 francs (£1,360) was being charged for an abortion.

In addition to the doctors, five relatives of the girls who had abortions carried out at the clinic, are also charged with offences under the abortion law.

Dr Aimé Marchand, the director of La Pergola, who has spent the past 15 months in prison awaiting trial, told the court that the case had been brought only because the policy of the Government had changed after Mme Simone Veil had left the Health Ministry and M Christian Bonnet, the Minister of the Interior, began to involve himself in the law.

"Mme Veil represented tolerance; M Bonet represents repression," he said. "They (the Government) have launched a policy for increasing the birth rate and they are carrying out a witch hunt."

## East and West fail to agree on disarmament formula

From Richard Wigg
Madrid, Jan 27

The second phase of the European security review conference opened here today, with delegations from the West and the communist countries far apart on the conditions they would accept for holding any kind of disarmament conference within the framework of the Helsinki Act.

Rival proposals for holding such a conference are likely to be the chief business occupying this second phase, with the West rejecting a Soviet-backed Polish proposal for a conference on military détente and disarmament as a propaganda exercise designed to lull Western public opinion into a false sense of security, and preferring a French proposal limited strictly to additional confidence-building measures of a verifiable nature in the land military sphere.

A diplomatic tussle also looms over the holding of a third follow-up conference on the Helsinki process itself, on the lines of this Madrid meeting, which began its first phase last November.

With the United States delegation awaiting instructions on the attitude to adopt towards the French proposal from the new Reagan Administration, Mr Max Kampelman, who continues as its leader, concentrated in his speech today on condemning further violations of human rights by the Soviet Union while the conference was in recess.

Britain today also expressed growing concern about an apparent recent intensification of discriminatory measures against Jews in the Soviet Union.

"Détente does not exist today as an accurate description of East-West relations," the Russians were told flatly today by Mr Kampelman

But the chief United States delegate went on to emphasize that détente sill remained an American objective.

Mr Kampelman is expected in Washington at the weekend to clarify instructions on the French proposal from Mr Alexander Haig, the new Secretary of State. Most Western delegations hope, and expect that this first indication of the new Administration's line in an important foreign policy field will draw the United States closer to its Nato allies.

## Swiss offices bombed

Milan, Jan 27.—A woman was injured when a powerful bomb exploded at the Swiss tourist office here, wrecking cars and destroying the Bureau. A second bomb went off at a Swiss-air office.

## Rhine nations reject plan to clean river

From Our Correspondent
Paris, Jan 27

France has failed to convince the four other countries touched by the Rhine (Switzerland, West Germany, Luxembourg and Holland) to accept the idea of building a salt extraction plant as the best way of cleaning up the river.

Instead a meeting of environment ministers from all five countries in The Hague agreed yesterday that, failing the project to inject excess salt into the ground below Alsace (a solution rejected by France), then the waste from the French potash mines would have to be transported either by barge to the North Sea or else taken away in a special pipeline.

## Sanity regained after professor's 28-year fight

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Jan 27

The French, who are willingly inclined to paradox, often think that the people who are sane are shut up in lunatic asylums, and those who are mad are most frequently to be met outside them.

The case of M Marc Blanc-Lapierre, aged 56, who was wrongly interned for 11 years, from 1952 to 1963, would seem to prove the point.

M Blanc-Lapierre was sufficiently sane to pass several university examinations during his period of internment. He had written several books of proven scientific worth—he is a professor of mathematics—and even set up a "psychiatric university" in the Marchant hospital in Toulouse where he was detained.

He gave lectures in science and mathematics which, according to the medical staff of the hospital, were extremely popular, and well attended.

It has taken seven years of litigation for M Blanc-Lapierre to obtain reparation from the courts. The civil chamber of the Higher Court of Toulouse yesterday acknowledged that he had been wrongfully interned and awarded him damages of 170,000 francs (£15,500) against the state.

The court, in its verdict, found rather curiously that "beyond one year, the compulsory internment of M Blanc-Lapierre was no longer justified", and that after it should have become voluntary.

According to the victim, his misadventures began in 1952 when he was jostled in a crowd waiting for the arrival of the Tour de France cycle race at Toulouse and lost consciousness.

He also lost his identity papers in the process, and was taken to hospital, where no attempt was made to obtain his social security registration number. About the same time, the police were on the look out for a certain Max Blanc, who had escaped from a Toulouse psychiatric hospital.

M Blanc-Lapierre was mistaken for him and interned, in spite of his protests. He was discharged in 1963, and started legal proceedings against the chief physician of the establishment. The latter had received death threats by post and in turn sued M Blanc-Lapierre who this time was put under lock and key in the Saint Michel prison.

Two experts appointed by the court to examine him concluded that he was "a dangerous paranoiac, unliable to a penal sanction", and that he should be interned in a psychiatric establishment.

M Blanc-Lapierre's own lawyers demanded a counter-investigation by three Paris experts. They agreed he was sane, and he was discharged. But he retaliated by suing for 100,000 francs damages the doctors who had described him as a "dangerous paranoiac".

The case was heard in March of last year. It was dismissed. The two experts were awarded a symbolic one franc damages.

M Blanc-Lapierre sued the penal administration; and it was this case which at long last, he won yesterday.

# Mr Reagan promises 'swift retribution' for future terrorists

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Jan 27

President Reagan welcomed the hostages back to America today, just a week after they left Iran and he himself took office. Standing before a large crowd at the White House, he gave a warning that any other kidnapping of American diplomats would meet with swift retribution.

"Let terrorists be aware", he said, "that, when the rules of international behaviour are violated, our policy will be one of swift and effective retribution. We hear it said that we live in an era of limits to our power. Well, let it also be understood there are limits to our patience."

The hostages arrived at the White House at 2.30 pm after a 90-minute drive from Andrews Air Force base. There were a quarter of a million people lining the streets, cheering the convoy of buses and their police and military escorts.

There were yellow ribbons everywhere, in reference to the song "I'll hang a yellow ribbon on the old oak tree" which marks the return of a prisoner. Ever since the very first days after the hostages were captured in November 1979, ribbons have been draped round trees in various parts of the country.

Today the ribbons were everywhere. The Treasury building, a severe grey granite edifice, had ribbons on alternating columns of its long portico. On closer inspection, they turned out to be paper cut outs, in the shape of bows, but they made a jolly and slightly bizarre sight.

There were endless signs of welcome. Mr Bruce Laingeu, the senior diplomat among the hostages, remarked on one in particular: "IRS welcomes you back". IRS is the Internal Revenue Service.

There were about 7,000 people in the back garden of the White House, to cheer the hostages and to hear the President. There was a line of ambasadors representing those countries that had played a part in negotiating the hostages' release, with the Algerian in pride of place, but also with the British, West German and Swiss ambassadors.

The 52 hostages who returned a week ago were joined this afternoon by Mr Richard Queen, the hostage who developed multiple sclerosis in captivity and was released last year. Their families were there, and so were the families of the eight soldiers who died in the unsuccessful rescue attempt last April.

Mr Reagan told them: "You are home and, believe me, you are welcome. You've come home to a people who, for 444 days, suffered the pain of your imprisonment, prayed for your safety, and, most importantly, shared your determination that the spirit of free men and women is not a fit subject for barter."

After the official welcome on the White House lawn, there was a reception in the East Room. Mr Reagan presented each of the hostages with an American flag in a case.

There were to be fireworks this evening and the former hostages and their families will celebrate the occasion again, before returning home for rest and recuperation. Mr Reagan disclosed yesterday that about a dozen of them still suffer from psychological problems as a result of their captivity.

Two of the President's most senior staff, Mr Ed Meese, Counsellor, and Mr James Baker, Chief of Staff, said today that the agreements with Iran are still being examined but would probably be honoured in full. Iranian companies have already started placing orders with American firms, who are consulting the Treasury as to whether thesy should reply.

Those companies that did business with Iran before the revolution have claims, some of them very large, against Iran that are to be examined by the claims commission set up as part of the agreement on the release of the hostages.

# Ill-treatment stories are played down by hostages

From Michael Leapman
West Point, Jan 27

Forty-one of the 52 former American hostages, in their first formal public appearance since their release from Iran last week, seemed anxious to play down reports of ill-treatment at the hands of their captors.

At today's press conference at West Point, the military academy, where they have been relaxing with their families since returning from Germany on Sunday, they would not go into details about what they had been through.

This may have been by instruction from the State Department. The press conference was voluntary for the former hostages and it was surprising that so many of them agreed to submit themselves to reporters who have been hounding them since their release. As it turned out, they provided less detailed information about their captivity than they have done during casual meetings with reporters here and in Germany.

One of the Marines, Sergeant Johnny McKeel, gave the pithiest answer when asked about reports that some of the returned hostages are suffering from mental difficulties.

"All the people I've talked to are all right," he said. "As soon as we get home and get back to chasing women it will be all right."

Colonel Thomas Schaefer, the air attaché at the embassy, explained the temporary difficulty in adjusting to freedom.

"During captivity the greatest problem was what to have with the rice," he said. "Then 48 hours later we are in Germany and President Carter is embracing us with tears in his eyes. It takes time to adjust."

Miss Elizabeth Swift, one of the two women held, warned the press against misreporting allegations of ill-treatment. She complained that she had been misquoted on the subject in *Newsweek*.


Former hostage Mr Charles Jones receiving an emotional welcome from his family.

Sergeant William Gallegos of the Marines said: "The captors were good to us by their own standards . . . but we were not being treated well."

None of the former hostages would be drawn into criticism of the Carter Administration's actions before their capture or during it. The closest to a critical comment came from Mr Bruce Laingen, the chargé d'affairs at the Embassy. Discussing the aborted rescue mission last April, he said he took "a very strong view about anything that could have endangered our lives".

Mr Victor Tomseth, senior political officer, answered the criticism that the United States Government had set a precedent by negotiating with terrorists. "If you look beyond the rhetoric in previous terrorist incidents, there is a precedent for negotiation except when it ended in death", he said.

Mr John Graves, public affairs officer at the embassy, said that the press had not reported properly the real aim of the young people who stormed the embassy. They were, he said, genuine students and at the beginning their call for the return of the Shah to Iran was a pretext cloaking their true intentions.

Details of how the captives passed the time were given by Mr William Keough, head of the American school in Pakistan, who was visiting the embassy when it was taken. During the 14 months and a half they had read a lot and written notes about their experiences. During periodic inspection the Iranians would take away what they had written, so they would write it out again until some of them knew it by heart.

About 500 reporters attended the press conference in Eisenhower Hall, a large auditorium in the academy grounds. It was televised live.

Mr Laingen was the moderator and made an opening speech expressing gratitude for the welcome they had received on behalf of "this embassy in exile which goes out of business officially today".

# Tehran uses film to repudiate US claims

From Tony Allaway
Tehran, Jan 27

Iranian officials tonight confirmed they were sending filmed interviews with each of the 52 American hostages abroad for the world to judge allegations of maltreatment.

Mr Ahmad Azizi, former head of hostage affairs in the Prime Minister's office, told a press conference that half an hour from the film, which is between four and five hours long, had already been used on Eurovision last Saturday.

Mr Azizi said that, in the interviews with one of their student captors, some of the hostages "might" complain of psychological torture concerning the length of their confinement. "But, in general, most is contrary to what Carter and the others have said", he added.

At the press conference Mr Behzed Nabavi, Minister of State and a government spokesman, further countered internal criticism of the deal that freed the hostages, amid growing signs that the Government would be able to ride the storm of protest over the accord.

Mr Nabavi questioned the policy of the two leading moderate papers in running daily leading articles condemning the deal, saying it only provided ammunition for the BBC and foreign papers to use against Iran.

"In the foreign press the solution is referred to as if the United States has paid ransom, but in Iran they say the opposite", he said. As he spoke, it was apparent that the campaign against the deal in the two newspapers, *Mizan* and *Islamic Revolution*, was beginning to lose steam.

Mr Nabavi also indicated that Iran was willing to reopen diplomatic relations with Canada, provided it undertook "not to engage in spying or assisting spying activities". Included in the latter, he said, was the help the Canadians gave to six American diplomats to flee from Iran during the crisis.

# In brief

## Falklands move draws protest

Argentina has expressed "deep concern" at reports that the Falkland Islands is seeking to encourage people to move from St Helena to settle in the Islands to help fill job vacancies (our Diplomatic Correspondent writes). Mr Anthony Williams, the British Ambassador in Buenos Aires, has been told that such a move would prejudice possible future negotiations between the two countries, according to the Argentine Foreign Ministry.

The Foreign Office said yesterday that immigration is a matter for the Falklands Islands Government, not Britain.

## Indian cosmonaut

Delhi, Jan 27.—The Soviet Union could put an Indian cosmonaut into space as early as 1982 if a decision on selecting the spaceman is taken now, Lieutenant-General Georgi Beregovoy, head of the Soviet cosmonaut training centre, said.

## Hope fades

Bodo, Norway, Jan 27.—Rescue officials hold out little hope for the four missing crew from a Greek cargo ship, Deifovos, that sank off Norway's north coast, a spokesman said. Five bodies have been recovered and 29 crew have been rescued.

## Less sparkle

Epernay, Jan 27.—Sales of champagne dropped by more than 4 per cent to 176,466,231 bottles last year because of a poor wine harvest in 1978 and 1980, the Champagne Wine Producers Association said.

## Bets closed

Rome, Jan 27.—The public prosecutor today issued 50 arrest warrants, 22 of them for croupiers, and ordered the closure of the casino at San Remo on the Italian Riviera.

## Guerrilla demand

Bogotá, Jan 27.—Guerrillas holding Mr Chester Bitterman, the American linguist, demanded publication of a statement in American, European and Latin American newspapers as a condition for his release.

# Haigspeak rewrites the grammar

From William Safire
New York, Jan 27

A new linguistic form called Haigravation is rearing its head in Washington. It is the tendency of the new Secretary of State to change the state of parts of speech—from noun to adverb, from noun to verb.

The new top man at Foggy Bottom, former General Alexander Haig, studded his testimony at confirmation hearings with locutions such as "I'll have to caveat my response, senator, and I'll caveat that."

Caveat, as used by generals like Julius Caesar, is the third-person singular present subjunctive of the Latin *cavere*, to beware. Standing by itself, *caveat* in Latin means "let him beware". In English, the word is a noun synonymous with warning. It is also part of the Latin phrase *caveat emptor*, let the buyer beware.

Until now, caveat has been a noun: in Haigravation, it has become a verb "I'll caveat that" means, presumably, "I'll say that with this warning". (I'll caveat the reader that this locution will soon be followed in literary circles with "I'll asterisk that".)

Not to be outdone, Senator John Glenn asked the witness: "Will you burden-share?" This is a heavy new verb formed from burden-sharing, diplomatic jargon for "my taxpayers won't kick in any more until yours do."

But Mr Glenn is not in Mr Haig's verbifying league. "Not in the way you contexted it, Senator", was a four-star reply about immorality in high places. To context something, in this lingo, is to place it in context.

Mr Haig has a history of this sort of thing. In hearings last year, the former general said something like: "There are nuance-al differences between Henry Kissinger and me on that." The exact quotation cannot be found, because "nuance-al," or "nuansle," was expunged from the written record of the hearing by some unknown hand, and "differences of nuance" put in.—New York Times News Service.

# FBI clears the way for new Labour Secretary

From David Cross
Washington, Jan 27

To the great relief of President Reagan, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has uncovered no evidence of illegal or unethical behaviour by Mr Raymond Donovan, his choice for Secretary of Labour.

At a confirmation hearing by the Senate labour and human resources committee today, Mr Francis Mullen, Assistant Director of the FBI, said that he and his colleagues had conducted a "thorough and exhaustive" investigation into allegations of contacts between Mr Donovan and organized crime figures, as well as claims that his building firm had been involved in underhand payments to trade union officials.

In its determination to leave no stone unturned, some 120 people had been interviewed in "the most extensive" inquiry into the background of any Cabinet nominee, Mr Mullen said. The investigation had failed to develop any information to substantiate several allegations made against the Labour Secretary-designate or the Schiavonne Construction Company of New Jersey, he added.

The FBI's failure to come up with any incriminating evidence against Mr Donovan should lead to the swift approval of his nomination by the Senate committee and then by the full Senate.

The hearing into his suitability for the post of Labour Secretary opened alongside all the other Senate investigations into Mr Reagan's Cabinet nominees a couple of weeks before the new President's inauguration last Tuesday.

The hope then was that all the secretaries-designate would be confirmed by Wednesday or Thursday of last week. But when the allegations of impropriety against Mr Donovan were raised a couple of weeks ago, Senator Orrin Hatch of Utah, chairman of the labour committee, postoned the hearings until after the FBI had checked fully.

Not only have the original allegations against Mr Donovan been a source of some embarrassment to Mr Reagan, but the delay in his confirmation has also highlighted the fact that the replacement of senior officials in the various government departments is proceeding much more slowly than the new administration had originally hoped.

Soon after his election last November Mr Reagan promised that his new Administration would "hit the ground running" the moment he assumed power formally on January 20.

But although the confirmation of most members of his Cabinet was concluded by the Senate last week, many more junior ministers are still waiting for their nominations to be approved formally. In addition, there are still many vacancies among the several hundred senior government posts reserved for political appointees.

# Abscam defendant guilty

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Jan 27

Mr Richard Kelly, the most colourful of those accused of political corruption during the so-called Abscam investigation, has become the sixth member or former member of Congress to be found guilty of the charges against him.

After six hours of deliberations here, a federal jury decided that videotape recordings showing Mr Kelly stuffing $25,000 (£10,400) in cash into his pockets were sufficiently good evidence to convict him.

The recordings suggested that Mr Kelly had accepted the money in return for promising to do what he could to help two fictitious Arab shaikhs to immigrate to the United States. The wealthy "Arabs" were, in fact, disguised agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Throughout the trial, Mr Kelly protested his innocence.

# Cuba alerted in case US invades

Havana, Jan 27.—Cuba is preparing its people militarily and psychologically for an assault on its 22-year-old revolution by the Reagan Administration.

Only hours after Mr Reagan took the oath of office, President Fidel Castro presided over a ceremony in which men and women of the island's new People's Militia swore to defend the revolution to the death.

The volunteer militia units, with regular Army instructors, are being organized and trained throughout Cuba. Señor Raúl Castro, the Minister of Armed Forces and the President's brother, said recently: "We can expect an increase in hostility against our country."

President Castro said last month: "Nobody knows exactly what Reagan proposes to do. We have to base ourselves on the Republican platform, the public statements of the candidate, and the thinking reflected by the advisers of the new President." This thinking was extremely reactionary and dangerous, he added.

To meet the alleged threat, the regular Army, battle-hardened in African campaigns and equipped with modern weapons, will be supported by the People's Militia, which could enrol more than a million Cubans.

Should the country be occupied, Dr Castro foresees a prolonged guerrilla war based on the traditions of Cuba's 30 years of struggle against Spanish rule in the nineteenth century, and the guerrilla war he led himself against the government of President Batista in the 1950s.

Dr Castro has called for a "patriotic war" against invaders in which men, women and children would fight without quarter and use any weapon available, even macheres.

Most Western diplomats in Havana believe that Dr Castro is using the occasion to create a climate of immediate danger to unite the people behind the Government. Cuba's communist leaders say that it is their "historic responsibility" to prepare the people for any contingency.

Dr Castro has recently said: "If they dare to invade our country, more Yankees will die here than died in the Second World War."

He recalled what he said were earlier United States efforts to destroy the revolution. He predicted that under Mr Reagan, the Central Intelligence Agency would be given a free hand, and appealed to the new president to prohibit the CIA from drawing up plans to assassinate foreign leaders.

"Cuba's military doctrine, elaborated during years of intense work, is, in the first place, defence against landings, by active resistance . . . skilfully combined with energetic and opportune offensive action", Dr Castro went on.

"If an olive branch is offered, we will not reject it, but let nobody believe that Cuba will compromise on its principles. Cuba is and will continue to be a friend of the Soviet Union . . . Cuba is and will continue to be internationalist."

The term "internationalist" refers to Cuba's active support for revolutionary movements throughout the world.—Reuter.

OVERSEAS

# Japan lifts economic sanctions on S Korea

From Peter Hazelhurst
Tokyo, Jan 27

Japanese economic sanctions against South Korea imposed after Mr Kim Dae Jung, the South Korean opposition leader, was sentenced to death last year, are to be lifted, Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Japanese Prime Minister, announced today.

He told journalists in Tokyo that his Government would "unfreeze" Japanese loans to South Korea because Mr Kim's death sentence was commuted to life imprisonment.

"The issue has been one of Japan's greatest concerns. It was a stumbling block in the way of bilateral cooperation. But the obstacle has been removed at last and now we would like to talk with Seoul as soon as possible on the future of economic cooperation and the resumption of regular ministerial meetings between our two nations," Mr Suzuki said.

Relations between Tokyo and Seoul began to deteriorate last year after Mr Suzuki warned South Korea that economic and diplomatic ties between the two nations would come under great strain if Mr Kim was executed. As a consequence, Japan decided to freeze the equivalent of £38m in loans to South Korea last year. The loans, allocated within the framework of the Japanese budget last year, were extended originally to help South Korea to build up medical and educational facilities.

Japanese Government officials claim that President Chun Doo Hwan of South Korea decided to commute Mr Kim's death sentence to life imprisonment last week because of the adverse reaction in the United States and Japan.

One official said: "The authorities in Seoul are aware that President Reagan's Administration was disturbed by the decision to execute Mr Kim and they also know that Japan is South Korea's main trading partner."

Mr Suzuki's decision to lift sanctions against South Korea is likely to stir up a controversy in the Japanese Parliament during the next few weeks.

Both Communist and Socialist members of the House of Representatives pointed out today that the Japanese Government had a moral obligation to force the Seoul regime to release the jailed opposition leader because he was kidnapped from a Tokyo hotel in 1973 and taken out of Japan illegally by members of the Korean Central Intelligence Agency.

# Chinese academics in Hongkong dismiss Peking trial as a farce

From Richard Hughes
Hongkong, Jan 27

For the first time Chinese University authorities in Hongkong are denouncing the trial and sentencing of "Gang of Four" as "a farce" and "a continuation of political illegality".

"The trial was a 'You purge me and I purge you' game, and this kind of political struggle will go on and on", said Mr Cheng Kuo-sin, head of the Communications Department of Hongkong Baptist College.

"I would not be surprised to see cadres promoted by Mr Deng Xiaoping, such as Zhao Ziyang, the Prime Minister, purged one day. They are in power now because of Deng's supporters. But if Deng dies tomorrow, we will have another gang of four."

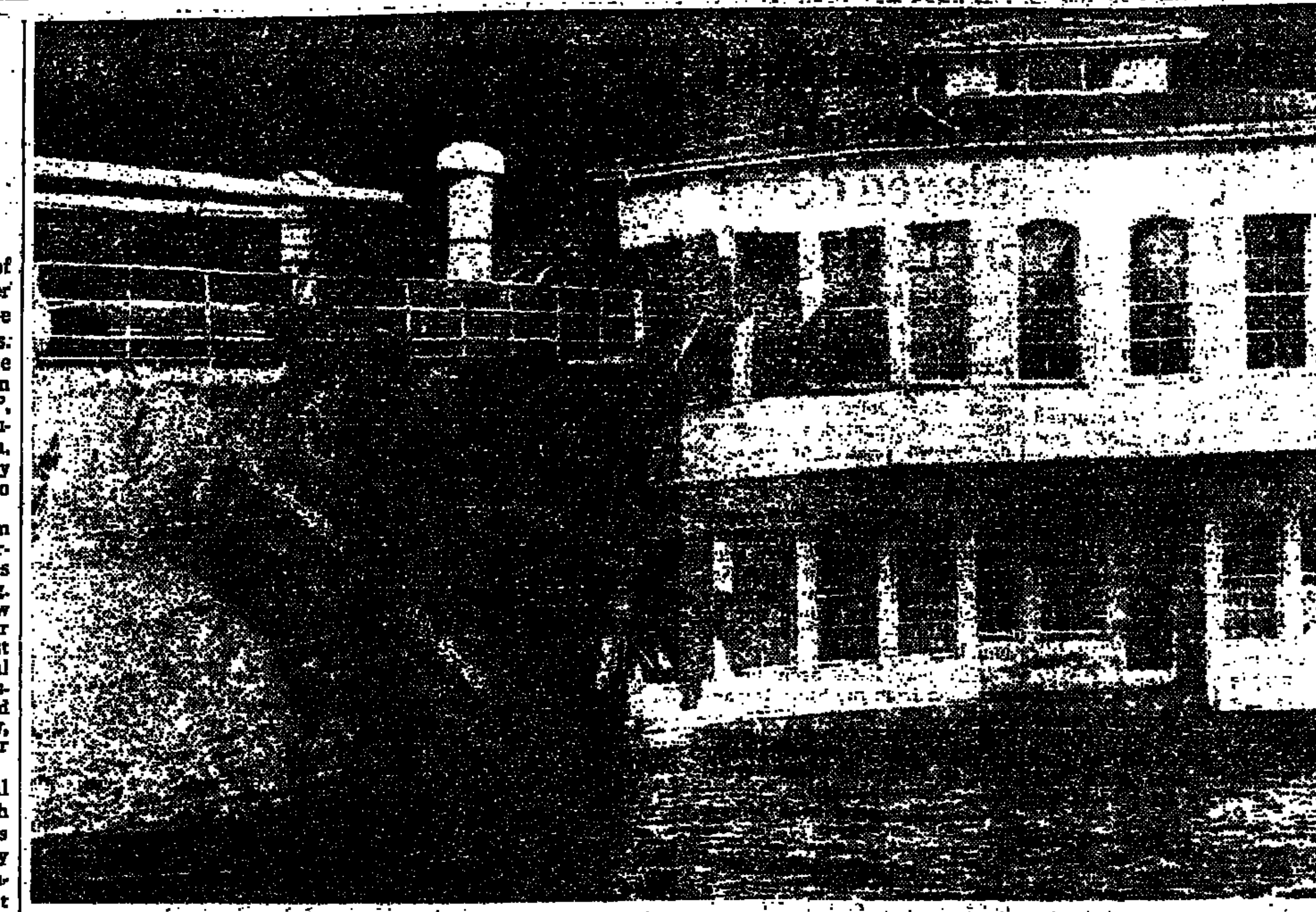
Dr Joseph Cheng, a Hongkong Chinese University lecturer, predicted that the most important outcome of the trial would be its impact on the people of China. "The reigning Chinese leadership will have to face the problem of coping with dissatisfaction and frustration among the military, who are not happy with the way the trial has been conducted", he said.

The local Asia Forum of Human Rights will send a letter of protest to Peking against the suspended death sentences: "The trial was not fair because the defendants were not given the right to argue their case", said Mr Samuel Ho, the executive secretary of the forum. Another rights' group, Amnesty International Hongkong, is also opposing the death sentences.

The protests and criticism will certainly not help the current drive to improve relations between Hongkong and Peking.

**Humanitarian act:** The widow of Liu Shaoqi, the former Chinese head of state, the most prominent victim of the Cultural Revolution, said today the suspended death sentence imposed on Jiang Qing, Mao's widow, was a humanitarian act (Reuter reports from Peking).

The decision of the special court to sentence her to death with a two-year reprieve was "in the spirit of revolutionary humanitarianism", Wang Guangmei said in the Communist Party newspaper *People's Daily*. Her "life or death matters little to the general situation of China and has no bearing on our cause".



After surviving beside one of the world's busiest waterways for 250 years, this wooden house on the Bosporus was hit yesterday by a Greek ship. Nobody was injured.

# Cannon find may start Californian gold rush

From Ivor Davis
Los Angeles, Jan 27

The discovery of five rust-encrusted ancient ship cannons on a Santa Barbara beach could inspire a hunt for Spanish gold off the coast of southern California, according to Professor Frank Frost who teaches seafaring history at the University of California.

Professor Frost said that the five guns, which were washed ashore during the recent heavy seas, could have come from a wrecked ship sunk in Santa Barbara channel. The ship could have been one of the British or Dutch pirate vessels which once preyed on Spanish galleons off Californian waters.

Publicity about the find could lure hundreds of treasure seekers to the area, Professor Frost said.

The cannons were discovered over the weekend by a beach stroller who at first thought the guns were rusted sewer pipes.

Professor Frost believes the cannons were made during the eighteenth century. He said: "Until the 1800s the British used to hang off this coast waiting for the Manila galleon which every year or almost every year, the Spanish in the Philippines would send with all the treasure they had collected."

The treasure— thousands of pounds of gold and silver—was put on a mule team to Mexico City. Then it was taken to Vera Cruz and put on a treasure fleet bound for Spain.

It took a dozen people to carry each of the five cannons, three and a-half feet long and weighing up to 700lb. apiece, to a lorry which transported them to the University of California.

Searchers also found swivel mounts and what are believed to be musket barrels. It is hoped to clean the guns and put them on public display.

## Pakistani initiative undermined by attacks on the Soviet Union at Islamic conference

# UN pressed to drop scheme for mediation in Afghanistan

From Robert Fisk
Taif, Saudi Arabia, Jan 27

Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, is under pressure in Saudia Arabia and other conservative Arab states to turn down Pakistan's request for a special United Nations representative to mediate in the Afghanistan crisis.

Although he has made no final decision, Dr Waldheim now believes that delegates to the third Islamic Conference, which entered its third day here today, will produce so profound a condemnation of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan that the appointment of a United Nations mediator could prove worthless.

President Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan yesterday told delegates that he had received "intimations of flexibility" from Moscow and Kabul and that this would be a favourable opportunity for Dr Waldheim to send a United Nations official to Kabul to start consultations for a peaceful solution to the problem.

Whether or not President Zia gave the Soviet Union advance warning of his proposal is unclear, but the Gulf states did not react very happily to his suggestion. All day yesterday four representatives of the Afghan rebel bands fighting the Soviet Army vainly sought an interview with Dr Waldheim to express their abhorrence that a United Nations representative might negotiate with the Afghan Government and the Russians.

The man Dr Waldheim might have appointed to the post is Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the former United Nations Special Representative in Cyprus. Quite by chance—or that, at least, is what the United Nations claims—Señor Pérez de Cuellar was in Taif with Dr Waldheim today. In fact, he seems to have been waiting for the outcome of the summit to see if he might be travelling to Kabul, Tehran and Islamabad.

Within the next 24 hours, the Afghan delegation, which holds observer status at the conference, is scheduled to deliver an address condemning any political negotiation with the Afghan or Soviet authorities. One of their nominal spokesmen —nominal only because leadership in the Afghan insurgent movements is a tenuous, slippery affair—said today that the only solution in Afghanistan was a military one.

But there are few signs that the Afghan representatives are being taken very seriously here. One of their number, Professor Abdul Rasoul Sayef, stood today in the conference palace, a lonely figure dressed in pantaloons and a tall, blue turban, trying to look at ease in the marble corridors but largely ignored by his fellow-delegates.

"We will drive the Russians out," he said. "We want no negotiations. Anyone who goes to Kabul to talk to the Karmal Government will be talking to a servant of Russia. It would be a betrayal. There is only one solution—to drive the Russians out with guns."

This, however, is not quite the level of political sophistication that the Saudis would like to see in their Afghan brothers. Almost all the Arab states represented in Taif understand the seriousness of the Afghan crisis and accept that some political formula will have to be found if the Soviet Union is to be induced to withdraw.

This has given rise already to rumours that the special Afghan committee, made up of four of the Islamic nations represented at the summit, proposed to send Mr Yassir Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, to Moscow to open negotiations directly with the Russians.

As for Mr Arafat, he was far too preoccupied today with this morning's conference session, where leaders of the 37 Islamic nations began their deliberations on the methods which should be used to free Jerusalem from Israeli control.

King Hassan of Morocco called for a *jihad* (holy war) against Israel, although he also took care to define this notion as a "moral and material struggle" rather than a military conflict. The King leads the Arab committee which tries this year has concocted a detailed strategy of economic and diplomatic initiatives to be taken against Israel.

The Afghans fear that Islamic support for the Palestinians counts for more than Afghanistan. If their fears are justified—if the Saudis eventually relent and urge some political mediation through the United Nations—then the summit at Taif will mark the occasion on which the Afghan insurgents were formally sold out.

**$1,000m offer:** During yesterday's session, Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia, proposed a $3,000m (£1,250m) fund to finance development projects in Islamic countries (Reuter reports).

He told the conference that Saudi Arabia would contribute $1,000m to the fund, with the rest to be provided by other rich conference countries. Saudi Arabia, he added, was also prepared to increase the capital of the Islamic Development Bank.

The bank has allocated $777m in aid and interest-free loans to the Islamic conference coun-

# Salvador junta claims pilot smuggled arms

San Salvador, Jan 27.—A pilot alleged to have been smuggling arms into El Salvador for guerrillas fighting the Government was paraded before journalists by the authorities.

Señor Julio Romero Talavera, said to be a Nicaraguan, had an arm wound, which the Salvador Army said he had received "while trying to escape" after his Costa Rica-registered twin-engine aircraft made a forced landing on Sunday about 70 miles south of here.

The authorities said the aircraft had been parachuting arms to the guerrillas.

Meanwhile, the left-wing Farabundo Martí Liberation Front said fighting was continuing with Government forces in the north-east of the country. The front said it controlled 12 miles of the road between Cujuaitique and Ocicala.

The front also accused government troops of carrying out "homicidal operations" against the civilian inhabitants of Sensuntepeque and Villa Victoria in central El Salvador.—Agence France Presse.

# Hospital victim awarded £1.2m

New York, Jan 27.—A man of 27 who was blinded soon after birth by a medical experiment performed on him without his parents' consent will receive $2.9m (£1.2m) damages for malpractice.

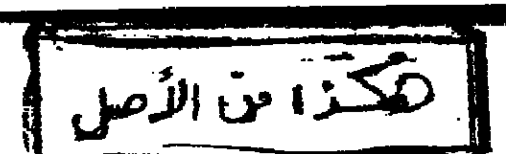
The lawyer for Mr Daniel Burton, who remained in an incubator for 28 days after he was born prematurely at New York hospital in 1953, said his client had been used as "a human guinea pig." The experiment consisted in administering huge doses of oxygen to premature babies.—UPI.


(continued on page 26)


# Appointments Vacant

## GENERAL VACANCIES





Law Report January 27 1981 — Court of Appeal

# Ban to stay on TV drug film

**Schering Chemicals Ltd v Falkman Ltd and Others**

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Shaw and Lord Justice Templeman

With Lord Denning dissenting, the Court of Appeal refused to discharge an injunction restraining Thames Television Ltd from showing a film called "*The Primodos Affair*", a documentary on the drug that was used in pregnancy testing until its withdrawal in 1978. Two actions by mothers of deformed children claiming compensation against Schering Chemicals Ltd, the drug manufacturers, are due to start in October.

The majority of the court, Lord Justice Shaw and Lord Justice *Templeman, held that there had* been breach of confidence by Mr David Elstein, the producer of the film, in respect of con*fidential information given to him* when he gave a television course to Schering executives. Their Lordships dismissed an appeal by Mr Elstein and Thames Television against an order of Mr Justice McNeill granting the injunction last August.

Mr Oliver Popplewell, QC, and Mr Christopher Sumner for Mr Elstein and Thames; Mr Roy Beldam, QC, Mr Gavin Lightman, QC, and Mr John Powles for Schering.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that Thames had made "The Primodos Affair" at much expense. It was about a matter of great public interest—the use of *the drug Primodos*. Scherings, its makers, wanted to stop the showing of the film on the ground that it would be a contempt of *court or a breach of confidence*.

Should the film be stopped or not? Or would the stopping of it be an unwarranted restraint on *the freedom of the press (including television)*? It was an important question on which the law was not yet settled.

*It* often happened that, when a woman missed her period, she was anxious to know if she was pregnant or not. If she did not want a baby, she took something which, she hoped, would bring on her period. In 1958 the word went round that Primodos was available for that purpose.

For nearly 10 years it was considered safe. But in 1967 a Dr Isabel Gal threw doubt on it. Her researches led to many investigations by specialists. As a result of warnings issued by the Committee on the Safety of Medicines, Scherings withdrew the drug in January, 1978.

The drug was the subject of the greatest public interest. The newspapers and television gave it full coverage. *The Sunday Times* was particularly active.

Many parents of deformed children read the newspaper articles and jumped to conclusions. One mother after another came forward, claiming compensation, and actions were started against Scherings. In October, 1979, two of the actions were ordered to be set down for trial. The trial had been set down for October, 1981, and was estimated to last for six months.

The *publicity* was adverse to Scherings but they took no steps to stop it. However, they tried to mitigate its effect. They decided to *get their own* executives trained in the techniques of television, so that they could put their point of view to the public. *They approached a firm*, Executive Television Training (ETT), which specialized in training company executives. It was really Falkman *Ltd, run by Mr Bernard Falk*.

Scherings handed to Mr Falk a great deal of information relating to Primodos. He studied it and *made his own inquiries about it*. His proposals for training Schering executives were accepted by Scherings. The fee payable was *£10,750 plus VAT*.

The proposals contained the provision: "[Falkman Ltd alias ETT] wish to stress that this *information, some of which* is public and some of which is private, remains strictly confidential to ETT. . . . We also *guarantee that it will never be* used in the future by my broadcasting associates of ETT . . .".

Falkman engaged several pro*fessional broadcasters to train* Schering executives. Mr Elstein was one. He got to know so much about the drug that an idea *occurred to him to make a documentary* film on the subject and call it "The Primodos Affair". He prepared a synopsis in May, 1979, *in which he outlined the* contents of the film. He put it up to Thames and suggested that they might make such a film and show *it. Thames were receptive to the* idea.

The idea was put to Scherings on July 4, 1979. At a meeting in *August Scherings did not turn* down the idea but were nervous that such a programme might be in contempt of court.

A great *mass of material* was assembled by a researcher for Mr Elstein: research papers, periodicals, television programmes, etc.

On November 5, 1979 Scherings wrote to Mr Elstein making it clear that they would not cooperate in the proposed programme. They said: ". . . in the *circumstances we would naturally* be concerned that none of the information supplied to you in confidence should be utilized."

*Mr Elstein went ahead with the* preparation of the programme. He said he made it "not out of anything I was told during the training courses *but as a result of* the independent research carried out by Sharon Goulds and myself."

The matter was left over until Scherings saw the programme on August 1, 1980. It was to be broadcast on September 16. But on August 12 Scherings issued a writ and moved for an injunction, which was granted by Mr Justice McNeill *on August 27*—not on the ground of contempt of court, but on the ground of breach of confidence. There was now an appeal to *their Lordships*.

Their Lordships had seen the film. It was a balanced and fair presentation, to which no reason*able objection could be made. It* contained nothing whatever to prejudge the pending cases. Care would be taken to select for the *trial a judge who had not seen* the film. But even if he had, his judgment could not be influenced by it.

*His* Lordship could find no single piece of confidential information which was—or might have been—gleaned by Mr Elstein from the course. The only thing that was taken from the course was the idea, the theme, the story of the *Primodos affair*. Just as *Shakespeare* used Holinshed's *Chronicles*, and Tennyson used Malory's *Morte d'Arthur*, so David Elstein used the information in *the course. In each case the previous work was the launching-pad* from which the new work took off. But no one would dispute the *originality of the new work*.

Scherings said that Mr Elstein was under a duty of confidence towards them. His Lordship *agreed*.

In considering whether Mr Elstein was in breach of his duty, it was important to remember that the application was an interlocutory one in which it was not possible to know the full facts. Suffice it to say that there was no evidence, or no sufficient evidence, to show that Mr Elstein knew anything about the terms on which Falkman were engaged by Scherings, except that the course was confidential and that he would be expected to respect that confidence. Not that Thames knew any more, either.

Neither Elstein nor Thames were at liberty to use any private *information without the consent* of Scherings; or to use any public information unless they did the research and collected it themselves. But they were at liberty to use public information by collecting it themselves, as they said they did. And they were at liberty to use any idea which came into their heads by reason of the course. Ideas were not the subject of copyright; nor of breach of *confidence*.

How far was it proper for the court to grant an injunction to *restrain publication by the press and television? Such an injunc*tion fell into a special category because it encroached upon one of our most fundamental free*doms, the freedom of the press*.

The freedom of the press did not mean that the press was free to ruin a reputation, or break a confidence or pollute the course of justice, or do anything that was unlawful. It meant that there was to be no censorship. No restraint *should be placed* on the press as to what they should publish: not by a licensing system, nor by executive direction, nor by court *injunction. It meant that the press* was to be free from what Blackstone called "previous restraint", and the Americans *called "prior restraint". The* press was not to be restrained in advance from publishing what it thought right to publish. It could "*publish and be damned*".

In exceptional cases, where the intended publication was plainly unlawful and would inflict grave injury on *innocent* people or seriously impede the course of justice, the court might issue a prior restraint. It might grant an interim injunction.

The same principle was contained in the European Convention on Human Rights. Here, the court was concerned with a question of policy. What should be the policy of the law in restraining publication? On such a question, our law should conform as far as possible with the provisions of the Convention. The European Court of Human Rights said in *The Sunday Times* case that the exceptions "must be narrowly interpreted".

As there was no risk that the course of justice in the pending actions would be impeded or prejudiced, there was no contempt of court, certainly not so clear a contempt as to warrant an injunction.

While freedom of expression was a fundamental human right, so also was the right of privacy. Everyone had the right to respect for his private life and correspondence. That included the right to have his confidential information *kept confidential*. That right might in some circumstances be so important that it took priority over the freedom of the press. An in*junction might be granted restrain*ing newspapers from breaking the confidence: see article 10(2) of the Convention.

But there were other cases when the right of the press to inform the public took priority over the *right of privacy. In such a case* no such injunction should be granted against the press and television restraining publication of *information* even *if it originated* in confidence.

Prior restraint was such a drastic interference with the freedom of the press that it should only be ordered when there was a substantial risk of grave injustice.

*His Lordship* stood as ever for the freedom of the press, including television, except where it was *abused*. It was *abused in the* Granada case, but not here. Even if there were abuse in this case, it was not such as to warrant the *injunction of a prior restraint*. The judge ought to have refused the injunction and, accordingly, the appeal should be allowed.

*LORD JUSTICE SHAW said that* Mr Elstein was an important member of the training panel; as a Thames employee he knew the *ropes as regards television and* broadcasting. He was just the sort of person who would, in a given situation, be able to advise how *best to parry or deflect adverse* publicity on those media.

No wonder then that Scherings agreed to pay very nearly £11,000 *for the course with Falkman Ltd*; and small wonder that Mr Elstein, who in the present regard acted as a freelance, was paid a fee of *£200 for each day that he attended* the course.

Mr Elstein was not directly employed by Scherings. The *implied obligation to maintain* confidentiality as to matters which he learned as interviewer on the course would not arise from any *contract between him and Scher*ings.

Within a month or so of the last training session Mr Elstein submitted *his proposal to Thames* for the documentary "based largely on my memory of the courses". It was remarkable that he should *have thought fit* to make any such suggestion to any outside party, let alone a powerful purveyor of publicity, without *Scherings's permission*.

When he condescended to tell Scherings of his idea, he wrote on July 4, 1979, that "the treatment rests heavily on privileged information and . . . the only basis on which we could make the film as proposed would be if Scherings were to cooperate fully and so render much of that information 'unprivileged'."

It was clear that Mr Elstein was using the word privileged as meaning "not to be revealed to anyone else without Scherings's *consent". In other words, he* was recognizing that what he had learned from his participation in the course was confidential to him, and *was* not to be passed on without their assent.

That assent was not forthcoming. Mr Elstein had, however, got *the bit between his teeth. He was* not to be stopped. A protest from Scherings about the utilization of information supplied in *confidence* evoked a *response* by letter of November 9, 1979, which contained the passage: "Such a programme would be worth mak*ing. Certainly*, we *intend to make* the effort and I will keep you . . . informed as to our progress, whether or not you eventually *decide to participate*." That apparently represented the limit of Mr Elstein's condescension to any canon of loyalty or standard of *good faith and simple integrity*.

On November 29, 1979, solicitors acting for Scherings wrote to Mr Elstein stating that they had advised *their clients* that "*it* would be a flagrant breach of confidence by [him] if [he] were to use for the purpose of [his] pro*gramme information given to* [him] in the course of [Falkman's] service". The letter stated that if the proposed programme *was not abandoned, Scherings* would seek an injunction. A similar letter was sent to Thames on December 20.

*Thames replied, asserting that* the programme would contain no material not freely available from other sources. It followed, so they contended, that no breach of confidence could arise from putting out the programme on television. They offered in due course to provide a view of the finished programme. Scherings's response through solicitors on February 8, 1980, was to *reserve their position* until the finished programme had been seen and to reiterate their intention to seek the court's protection. They *could hardly* have stated their attitude more plainly or promptly.

The communication in a commercial context of information which at the time was regarded by the giver and recognized by the recipient as confidential and the nature of which had a material connexion with the commercial interests of the party confiding that information, imposed on the recipient a fiduciary obligation to maintain that confidence thereafter unless the giver consented to relax it.

The obligation of confidentiality might in some circumstances be overborne. If the subject-matter was something which was inimical to the public interest or threatened individual safety, a person in possession of knowledge of that subject-matter could not be obliged to conceal it although he acquired that knowledge in confidence. In some situations it might be his duty to reveal what he knew. No such consideration existed in the present case since the time that Primodos was withdrawn from the market. The law of England was indeed, as Blackstone declared, a law of liberty; but the freedoms it recognized did not include a licence for the mercenary betrayal of business confidences.

It was said that the information upon which the programme was based could have been *derived from sources available to* the public before the course with ETT. It was asserted also that Mr Elstein, with the assistane of a colleague, *had* explored and collated all those sources the relevant facts and opinions were all to be found in what had been desribed as "*the public domain*" or the "public sector". It was contended that no principle of confidentiality could apply to matters which had become notorious.

It was an argument which at best was cynical; some might regard it as specious. Even in the commercial field, ethics and good faith were not to be regarded as merely opportunist or expedient. In any case, though facts might be widely known, they were not ever present in the minds of the public. To extend the knowledge or revive the recollection of matters which might be detrimental or prejudicial to the interests of some person or organization was not to be condoned because the facts were already known to some and lingered in the memories of others.

It was not the law that where confidentiality existed, it was terminated or eroded by adven*titious publicity. Nor was* the correlative duty to preserve that confidentiality. The public interest might demand that the duty be *gainsaid; but it could not be* arbitrarily cast aside. An order of a court of law might relieve the confidant of the burden of *secrecy and might, after due in*quiry, require him to reveal the subject-matter of the confidence; but it was not to be sloughed at will for self-interest.

There remained the question whether Scherings's remedy should sound only in damages. The present case was a case in which the injury to their interests might well be irreparable. They were a substantial organization pursuing a legitimate and *important enterprise* as manufacturing pharmacists. They were entitled to be protected from gratuitous onslaughts even when they assumed the guise of public crusades. The judge had been right to grant an injunction against the breach of confidence. The appeal should be dismissed.

Lord Justice Templeman delivered a judgment for dismissing the appeal.

The appeal was dismissed. Scherings's cross-appeal against the judge's refusal to grant an injunction for contempt of court was dismissed.

Solicitors: Mr A. M. Gostyn; McKenna & Co.

# Clerk's duty to record

**Regina v Horseferry Road justices, Ex parte Constable**

The Divisional Court granted an application for judicial review by Mr Hamnet Constable, a printer of Wigston Road, Plaistow, and quashed the decision of a stipendiary magistrate sitting at Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court that he was not entitled to withdraw his consent to summary trial, on the ground that the consent was vitiated by the court's failure to give him the opportunity of making representations as to which mode of trial, summary or on indictment, was the more suitable, as required by section 20(2)(b) of the Criminal Law Act, 1977.

LORD JUSTICE DONALDSON said that section 20 made it clear *that before a magistrates' court* considered whether a case was suitable for summary trial, and before it asked the accused *whether he consented to summary* trial, it had to give the prosecution and the accused the opportunity of making representations as to *which mode of trial was the more* suitable.

In an affidavit the applicant stated that when he gave his consent to summary trial he was informed by the clerk to the court that he had a right to be tried either by jury or in the *magistrates' court, but that he was* never informed that he could make any representations.

The clerk had no recollection of the particular case, but *it* was his practice, in cases where the prosecution asked for summary trial and the accused was unrepresented, to tell the accused that the case could be tried either at the Crown Court or in the magistrates' court and to ask the accused where he thought it ought to be tried, or where he would like it to be tried, and then put the accused to his election. His affidavit added that there had been occasions, although as far as he could recollect the present *case was not one of them*, when a stipendiary magistrate had accepted jurisdiction without asking for representations from the accused.

The criticism that the clerk's usual form of words was inadequate was misplaced. But what was important was that there was no court record that the applicant had ever been asked if he wished to make representations. There would have been a note if he had been asked and had made representations, but it was equally important that a court record should be made when an accused was asked if he wished to make representations but did not do so.

His Lordship had to accept that, having regard to the clerk's affidavit, the balance of probabilities was that the applicant's recollection was right and that some slip had been made. It was of fundamental importance that the procedures laid down by section 20 of the Criminal Law Act should be complied with. In the circumstances the decision would be quashed and the matter remitted to the court to be disposed of at the earliest opportunity.



# Afloat, with a down-to-earth girl called Alice



Photograph by Bill Warhurst

Barbara Comyns, mixing invention with reality.

"The only things that are true in this story", reads a short preface to an early novel by Barbara Comyns, "are the wedding and Chapters 10, 11 and 12 and the poverty". The disclaimer is necessary. To an unusual extent, Barbara Comyns is a writer who mixes invention with reality, giving to each the same weight, and drawing generously and without coyness on her own life for character *and occasion*. When *she* discusses her books it is to place them in her own past. Poverty and bleakness are things she knows about.

This week Virago are reissuing *The Vet's Daughter*, the story of a down-to-earth young girl called Alice, with a violent father "like a disappointed thunderstorm", who suddenly discovers that she can levitate.

Barbara Comyns dreamt the book. In an earlier version it came to her as the story of the frail, sad mother; later, it reappeared clearly as that of the oppressed daughter. "I usually do dream my books a bit", she says. "If I concentrate very hard on a story I can't get it out of my mind, even at night. While writing, I used to get up at five every morning to put it all down."

Started 35 years ago on her *honeymoon in Snowdonia with* her second husband, *The Vet's Daughter* was published in 1959 to wide critical acclaim. Since then it has been out of print. Barbara Comyns is one of those authors much praised for her *style* and particular, slightly quirky, stories, but they did not sell well and most of her eight novels which earned her fine reviews on publication have disappeared from circulation.

The mildly mystical approach to her subject, with *its overtones of inescapable* gloom, is expressed in final form in language so precise and economical—a way of writing acquired through much reading of Defoe—so pared down of all unnecessary words that it conveys a sensation of truth, "of realness almost exaggerated" as she accurately puts it.

"Because I ended the book with a supposed newspaper cutting reporting the spectacle of Alice's levitation on Clapham Common, people thought it was true. The local papers produced articles asking if any of their older residents could remember the event."

For Barbara Comyns herself, Alice's ability to float could well have been real: "People *have* levitated. I think I could do it myself if I were more spiritual, and if I really thought I could." As a child, she says, she believed she could walk on water but never quite reached the point of trying two feet at once.

Barbara Comyns is now 70, a diffident woman with a square unlined face which she tilts back to produce a sudden, awkward laugh. Her childhood features prominently and truthfully in her novels so that it would be quite possible to recreate her life with considerable accuracy if one knew what to look for.

One of six brothers and sisters, she grew up "very unsupervized" under the lax eye of governesses in the Warwickshire countryside. Her mother went deaf at 25 "perhaps because of having had so many children so fast". As a result, they were free to roam about and at times of full moon spent entire nights out of *doors*.

She was 17 when her parents died. Her father had left her enough money to keep herself at art school for a few years; when that ran out, she took a job helping in a commercial artist's studio, spending her evenings reading. By then she had started writing, and she found the influence of others distorted her own style. Did she stop reading so much? "Oh no, I *can't* stop reading."

She married very young, throwing her boxes of unfinished stories away as she left for her wedding. Her husband was an artist, a friend from days when they were both *children playing on an* Anglo-Saxon burial ground near her Warwickshire home. The marriage did not last. By the time war broke out she was keeping her two children by modelling, converting *houses into small flats and let*ting them, running a garage and buying and selling old Delage and Lagonda cars, dealing in antique furniture and poodle puppies. When war brought an end to the demand *for highly bred dogs and* sports cars, she took her children to the country, borrowed a typewriter to fill the lonely hours and wrote a book about here childhood called *Sisters by a River*.

Barbara Comyns has been writing ever since, first in Barcelona where she and her second husband lived for 18 years until inflation and the sinking pound forced them back to England, to the cottage of her scenery designer son, where the garden was full of hippopotamuses made of fibre glass. Four years ago they moved to a housing estate in Richmond, a sunny house with a whippet, birds in cages and many long-haired cats.

A touch of the gruesome, artlessly told, with unexpected passages of comedy, marks most of her books, all fiction except for an unpublished book on Leigh Hunt. *The Skin Chairs* is about a small girl who broods on the presence in her home of six chairs—five black, one white—made of human skin. (As a child, Barbara Comyns was taken to visit a colonel who possessed such chairs, trophies from the Boer War.) *Who was changed and who was dead* was based on a real epidemic of ergot poisoning in France, restaged in her own Warwickshire village. "It was fun remembering the characters I knew and making them mad."

The house in Richmond is neat and full of Dresden statues and half naif, half surrealist pictures of her own, a curious visual complement to her writing. She laughed when I asked if we could have a photograph of her. "One should look venerable at my age. In fact I just look like myself, only older and a bit batty."

She talks, as she writes, with a throwaway deceptively plain style, but without flippancy, choosing words with care and marking them all with a strong and always surprising individual touch.

**Caroline Moorehead**

The Vet's Daughter, *by Barbara Comyns. Virago Modern Classics*. £2.50.

*Social Focus*

# The child-death cycle that could be broken

When Scott Fitzgerald described the rich as being *different from the rest of us he* said nothing about one quality associated with wealth: the rich are healthier. In every part of the world the children of the rich are taller and heavier than their poor compatriots. As unemployment mounts and poverty returns to Britain the effects *of social disadvantages on health* will become even more apparent—and will continue to be felt well into the twenty-first century.

Social class differences in health are most obvious in obstetrics. During the 32 years of the NHS perinatal mortality (stillbirths and deaths in the first week of life) has steadily declined, but throughout that time the difference between social *classes I and V has remained unchanged*. It is as true today as 30 or 50 years ago that the chances of pregnancy ending in a dead baby are twice as high for a woman married to a manual worker as for the wife of a doctor, lawyer, or university teacher.

The effects of poverty on childbearing have a long, depressing history, recently reviewed by Sir Dugald Baird, the dis*tinguished emeritus professor of obstetrics* at Aberdeen University.

The period from 1850 to 1873 was the golden *age* of Victorian prosperity. At that time Britain claimed 40 per cent of the total world trade; yet her working population lived in degrading squalor, vividly described by social reformers but ignored by successive governments. Britain compared badly with the rest of Europe. In Sir Dugald's words, "*a higher propor*tion of children were born and reared in poverty as well as in a cold, wet, and *polluted urban atmosphere* . . . an environment which was more dangerous to health than that of any other country".

It was, indeed, the contrast between social attitudes in Britain and the rest of northern Europe between 1880 and 1910 that condemned our population to lag behind its neighbours in health for the remainder of the twentieth-century. In *1880 infant mortality (deaths in the first* year of life) and perinatal mortality were much the same in Britain and Scandinavia. Yet from 1880 infancy and perinatal mortality fell steadily in Denmark, Sweden, and the Netherlands; in Britain it rose—from 120 per 1,000 births in 1880 *to 160 in 1900*. The *gap opened up at that* time has remained ever since and Swedish perinatal and neonatal mortality is now about half that in Britain.

Why does poverty have such a marked effect on childbearing? With modern drugs, blood transfusions, and the whole panoply *of technical advances in obstetrics*, the social class of the mother might be expected to be of minor importance. Sir Dugald Baird's analysis (published in the British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology 1080; 87:1057-67) shows that poor maternal health increases the risk of stillbirth from lack of oxygen and from maldevelopment of the infant's brain (thought possibly to be due to dietary deficiencies). His detailed year-by-year study shows *that* the numbers of these infant deaths have risen and fallen in the past 50 years. Two *age groups of women had especially high* rates: those born at the turn of the century and those born between 1926 and 1937—both times of great poverty. A third peak occurred with women born in the early 1950s—the daughters of the women born in the depression years.

The explanation seems to be that the health of an adult is crucially influenced by the physical quality of the environment *in the first 15 years of life*. Childhood experiences affect susceptibility to disease and to the hazards of pregnancy. Before birth and *for the first year of* life the health of a child depends on the health and vitality of the mother. So class differences in infant mortality are, to a large extent, determined by the class differences in nutrition and other social factors in childhood.

How far can medical care reduce the effects of poor maternal health *on childbearing? That question was examined by* the House of Commons Social Services Committee last year in its report on perinatal and neonatal mortality. The committee identified a cluster of socioeconomic factors that contributed to perinatal mortality—lack of education, poverty, poor housing, possibly poor nutrition, unplanned pregnancy, smoking, and excess alcohol. It was also convinced, on the basis of expert advice from obstetricians, that "much of the death and handicap suffered by babies of socially disadvantaged mothers can be overcome *by well applied medical intervention*".

The committee estimated that proper use of modern knowledge could reduce *deaths at and around birth by 35-50 per* cent—a saving of 3,000 to 5,000 lives a year. Sadly, the Secretary of State for Health has refused to increase spending on the NHS obstetric services—even though the expenditure would be balanced by savings in other directions, since cutting perinatal mortality is expected to reduce, too, the numbers of children born with lifelong handicaps.

*Without positive intervention, Britain* will inevitably continue to lag behind its Scandinavian neighbours. It is a sad *commentary on national priorities that* Sweden—by no means the richest country in the world—should be the first to give all its children an optimum physical environment. Since 1976 measurement of children's heights has shown no differences either between social classes or between regions. Every child grows to its full genetic potential. Here in Britain regional and class differences are still evident—*and so long as they persist, the dis*advantaged children will carry their disadvantages into childbearing and so on to the next generation.

**Dr Tony Smith**

*Medical Correspondent*

# Jobless total serious: PM does not intend to depart from policy

House of Commons

For years Britain had tolerated overmanning, restrictive practices and pay increases far in excess of productivity and at last they had a Government which was dealing with the underlying problems, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said when she was questioned on the unemployment figures announced today.

The exchanges began after Mr Ivan Lawrence (Burton, C) had said, amid Labour laughter, Conservative MPs warmly welcomed Mrs Thatcher's initiative to arrange a seminar in Downing Street for inventors and entrepreneurs.

**Mr Michael Foot**, Leader of the Opposition (Ebbw Vale, Lab): The tragic and terrible unemployment figures announced today should be debated in the House of Commons in time provided by the Government which has created them.

**Mrs Thatcher**: I agree with Mr Foot that they are very tragic figures. If he wishes to pursue the question of debating them he should see Mr Pym, Leader of the House.

**Mr Foot**: We have asked that figures of this tragic significance should have been debated and arrangements should have been made for the Government to provide time.

The figures announced today are worse than any unemployment figures announced since the end of the war. They are worse than any figures for January, except one month, in the 1930s. That is the situation we face.

In May 1977 when the unemployment figures were more than a million less than they are today, Mrs Thatcher said "We would have been drummed out of office if we had these figures".

Is she prepared to face the House of Commons and debate these matters properly? Will she acknowledge that she has been responsible for the worst unemployment figures we have had recorded in this country this century?

**Mrs Thatcher**: Mr Foot will pursue the question of time for debate through the proper channels, with the Leader of the House (Mr Pym) which as a former Leader of the House he knows full well is the place and time to pursue them.

These times are different from the 1930s (Labour protests). During the 1930s there were only 18 million people at work. The employed working population today is something near 24 million people.

**Mr Foot**: Mrs Thatcher has acknowledged for the first time that these are figures of a quite different, tragic and momentous consequence. Does she intend to proceed with the policies that have helped produce them?

**Mrs Thatcher**: Mr Foot seems to indicate you cannot fight inflation and unemployment together. To fight inflation is the best way to fight unemployment in the longer run.

One of the problems we have had is for 20 years we have not taken steps we should have done to put fundamental problems right.

**Mr William Hamilton** (Central Fife, Lab): Is she dressed in black because of these figures? Her advice to keep on taking the medicine is creating industrial wastelands all over the United Kingdom. When on earth will she come to her senses and face reality?

**Mrs Thatcher**: The policy of fighting inflation, trying to make industries competitive, trying to encourage innovation and investment is the only policy which will create jobs in the long run. I do not intend to depart from it for one moment.

The figures are very serious and we are trying to assist as we can in the interim, we have considerably increased the youth opportunities programme.

In the United Kingdom as a whole we are spending together, on special employment measures and training, some £843m. That is a measure of the concern with which we view the situation.

**Mr Peter Bottomley** (Greenwich, Woolwich, West, C): Would she confirm that the welcome reduction in the level of pay increases would, if it had occurred last year or the year before, have done a great deal more to reduce the present level of unemployment?

**Mrs Thatcher**: Yes. I gladly confirm that had pay increases marched hand in hand with productivity increases, we should not be as uncompetitive as some firms are today. We would have had a lot less unemployment and a lot more jobs.

**Miss Joan Lestor** (Eton and Slough, Lab): Bearing in mind the propaganda of the Conservatives at the time of the last election on unemployment and statements they would reduce the number of unemployed, could she make clear whether the increase in the unemployment rate is by design the policy of the Government or an accident and the policies are now out of control?

**Mrs Thatcher**: There are two main reasons for the substantial increase in unemployment. One is the world recession. The other is that for years in this country we have tolerated overmanning, restrictive practices and pay increases far in excess of productivity and at last we have a Government which is dealing with the underlying problems. (Conservative cheers).

# Government do care: large scale help

The Government had given aid to industry on a scale which refuted Labour's argument that the Conservative Party and the Government did not care about unemployment, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment. He added that if Mr Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry in the last Labour government and now Opposition spokesman on employment had acted at the right time, the country might not be facing such difficulties now.

**Mr Martin Flannery** (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab): Does he not feel deeply ashamed at the desperate plight that Britain has been brought to by this most doctrinaire and reactionary of all governments?

When will the Government realize that the policy of monetarism is defunct and hopeless? When will the U-turn come about and bring some of our working people, especially young people, back into work?

**Mr Prior**: I share the concern of the whole House. (Renewed Labour interruptions.) Nobody likes to stand here with unemployment at this level.

The policies adopted by this Government however hard and however difficult, are more likely in the long run to get this country back on to a firm footing than anything suggested by the Opposition.

**Mr Cyril Smith** (Rochdale, L): Has not the time come for the Cabinet to stop using unemployment as an economic weapon? Actions speak louder than words. If he cannot persuade the Government to stop doing this, he should resign.

**Mr Prior**: The Government is not using unemployment as an economic weapon.

The amount of aid we are giving through special employment measures, and the temporary short-time working compensation scheme, and through aid on a massive scale to industries like British Leyland, British Shibuilders, the NEB and many others, is on a scale which refutes the Labour argument that this party and Government do not care about unemployment.

**Mr Eric Varley**, chief Opposition spokesman on employment (Chesterfield, Lab): Why does he not come clean and admit that Government policies are making a bleak situation much worse?

On any analysis—investment, output, average unemployment in industrial countries—our situation is much worse than the world recession. By any measure Mr Prior now is as discredited as the name of his job, a job he has signally failed to fulfil.

If he were to leave this now, this is one redundancy that the whole country would rejoice in.

**Mr Prior**: Mr Varley is right in saying that our unemployment is worse now than that of other countries, but he is totally wrong in no recognizing that has been a growing situation for 20 years, and one for which he, as Secretary of State for Industry in the former government, must take his share of responsibility.

If he had done what was necessary in helping to thin down the old, outdated industries at the right time, we might not be facing the difficulties we face today.

# Unique concentration of newspaper power in one set of hands

Such concentrations of newspaper power as were proposed by the purchase of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* by Mr Rupert Murdoch were probably unique and unprecedented in history, Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on trade, said opening the emergency debate on the proposed sale of the titles. The newspapers concerned had a unique place in the national life, he added.

**Mr Smith** (North Lanarkshire, Lab) said the proposed purchase raised vital questions of public interest. The case for a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission in this case was clear and straightforward. The acquisition by Mr Murdoch of both newspapers created a very large concentration of power in one set of hands.

He understood that with *The Sun* and *The Times*, Mr Murdoch would have 30 per cent of daily newspaper readership. *The News of the World* and *The Sunday Times* together would make 36 per cent of Sunday newspaper readership.

*The Times* (he said), perhaps our most prestigious paper, has played, still plays and will, I hope, continue to play a role as a reliable journal of record, a forum of national debate and articulator of independent opinion.

*The Sunday Times* has pioneered new fashions and techniques of journalism which have made it one of the most influential and successful Sunday newspapers in our history.

Both played such a role in national life, that particular care had to be given to how and by whom they were controlled.

Parliament already provided a method by which those matters could be scrutinized in Part V of the Fair Trading Act, 1973. If the mechanism thus provided was said to be not a proper way of handling it, one wondered why they should bother to retain it.

**Mr Tristan Garel-Jones** (Watford, C), *said he understood that the* merger of *The Sun* and *The Times* would give 25.9 per cent of the daily market, not 30 per cent. Those were from the latest ABC circulation figures.

**Mr Smith** said he had not been talking about market share. He had reason to believe his figures were correct.

It was unlawful and void for a newspaper merger to take place unless the Secretary of State approved it.

There were two ways he could avoid referring it to the Monopolies Commission: where it was not intended to continue one of the titles, when he could not refer it; and where the Secretary of State was satisfied that a newspaper was not economic as a going concern and as a separate paper. As a matter of urgency, he could then choose not to refer it.

He should explain, if he did not refer it, how he satisfied himself that *The Sunday Times* was not economic as a going concern.

The position of the two newspapers (he said) appears different in this respect. *The Times*, for the present at least, appears to be making a loss, although there are some projections about it becoming profitable in future. I believe that is what Mr Murdoch says himself. *The Sunday Times* situation is quite different.

Certain information had been given by Warburgs, the bankers employed by Thomsons. Projections had been made by them about the profitability of *The Sunday Times*. In 1980, he understood there had been a small profit. In 1981, it would make £4.8m; in 1982, £11.9m and in 1983, £13m.

In those circumstances, the Secretary of State could not find it easy to satisfy himself that *The Sunday Times* was not economic as a going concern as a separate newspaper. That seemed to him to be a statutory obligation which the Secretary of State had to meet.

There might be an argument that there was not enough time for a report to be made and that the deal would be frustrated to the prejudice of employment and the ultimate loss of the newspapers.

The timescale, with March 8 and March 14 as deadline dates, had not been fixed by uncontrollable events or the hand of fate, but solely by Thomsons.

*It* was clear from what had been said by the parties to this proposed purchase that some time had to be allowed for negotiations with the print unions. Mr Murdoch had said that was a condition put upon his purchase of Times Newspapers.

It would be possible for the Secretary of State to make a reference to the commission with a request that he received a report in a short period. There was not a great deal of detail to be investigated.

It would perhaps take a week to collect facts, most of which were available, assuming that the parties were all willing to cooperate. It would take another week for the report to be prepared so it could be available within the time scale already made for discussions with the unions.

He understood the concern people had about employment and that these papers should continue as valuable institutions of public life, but that concern could be safeguarded. The Act set a time limit of three months for a report, but there was no legal inhibition on the Secretary of State asking for a quick report. This would be an acceptable solution.

The public interest could be weighed and taken into account here without prejudice to the genuine interests of the people whose jobs were involved. Of course that implied a political will on the part of the Government to make a reference and this might be what was missing in this case. Mr Murdoch had said his only objection to a reference to the commission was this question of time.

Another line of argument had been developing which said it was not necessary or desirable to refer this to the commission because other sufficient or better safeguards existed in the assurances Mr Murdoch had already given to the Thomson organization and the staffs of the newspapers.

Assurances given in good faith by Mr Murdoch to the present owners of the organization were not substitutes for assurances given to a public statutorily constituted body such as the commission. Such assurances stood when questions were being asked.

When Thomsons took over they were the only bidder unlike the present case, but the matter was referred to the commission and Lord Thomson was cross-examined on the quality of the safeguards he offered.

Assurances had been given about editorial freedom and the integrity of the national directors of Times Newspapers. They were in some ways satisfactory concerning the independence of the papers, the control to be vested in the editor, and declarations about the papers being free of party political bias.

The national directors were crucial to the operation of the safeguards that were promised by Mr Murdoch. These directors were distinguished figures. At present under the articles of association of the newspapers of the Thomson Organisation as it existed there was a *special* clause that it was the Astor family which had the sole right to nominate directors.

Under the new arrangement, this would be removed so one of the safeguards regarding appointment of the national directors was being removed, not strengthened.

The appointment of the editors was of great importance because they knew there was going to be a vacancy in the reasonably near future at *The Times*. Many of Mr Murdoch's assurances hinged on the role of the editor. It depended on the independence of the editor if the assurances were going to have any meaning at all.

Under the proposed change, the national directors were not involved in the appointment of the editor. All they had instead was a right of veto. A Murdoch appointee would be put before them and rejected if they so wished. This was diminution of an existing safeguard.

These two points indicated why they must look carefully at the assurances, and why it was important that an expert body such as the newspaper panel of the commission applied its mind to finding out precisely what was involved.

It was possible there could be improvements in that direction. There was a faint air of the Athenaeum about the national directors. It was not the full spectrum of British public life. Perhaps there could be two additional national directors with working journalists from *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*.

These would be people with experience of working in newspapers who would be better to watch over the assurances given.

If the new editor was someone who was prepared to go along with the proprietor, a lot of the assurances would not be worth the paper they were written on.

We need to know (he said) the record of Mr Murdoch in respect of assurances given in respect of other newspapers in other parts of the world and that could be looked at by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

The Secretary of State had a legal duty to refer to the commission and it was overwhelmingly in the public interest that such a major change in newspapers in this country should be subject to this public scrutiny.

# Trade Secretary explains why he consented to Mr Murdoch's bid for 'The Times'

**Mr John Biffen**, Secretary of State for Trade (Oswestry, C), said the holding of the debate and the interest expressed both within the House and outside attested to the important place which Times Newspapers had in Britain's national life, and the manner of their continuance were issues of genuine public concern.

The general desire was to see that *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* and the various supplements continued in publication and to preserve the traditions and independence and the editorial freedom for which they were rightly renowned.

Under the 1973 Fair Trading Act there was a presumption that all proposals for newspaper mergers should be investigated by the Monopolies Commission.

The Act did, however, provide —in Section 58(3)—for certain exceptions. Where the Secretary of State was satisfied that the newspaper concerned was not economic as a going concern, and as a separate newspaper, and if he was satisfied also that if the newspaper was to continue as a separate newspaper, the case was one of urgency, he might give his consent to the transfer without a reference to the commission.

Thomson Organisation Limited, he said, in applying for my consent to the transfer to News International of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, made its application under that provision.

I had therefore first to satisfy myself whether the two conditions of the section—whether *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, separately, were each economic as a going concern, and whether the case was one of urgency.

If I was so satisfied, it was then for me to decide whether I should still require an investigation by the Monopolies Commission or whether I should grant my consent without a reference, if necessary with conditions.

My accountants have carried out a detailed investigation into the financial position and future prospects of both *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*. They have looked at the figures for the first 11 months of 1980—the latest available.

On the basis of their advice, I am satisfied that neither newspaper under present ownership and under present conditions—what the Act requires me to look at—was economic as a going concern and as a separate newspaper.

As far as *The Times* is concerned, there can be no doubt about the position. But even in the case of *The Sunday Times*, after allocating to it a reasonable share of Thomson's fixed overheads, I am satisfied that that paper too is uneconomic.

**Mr Geoffrey Robinson** (Coventry, North-West, Lab): After 15 years of ownership of these vital national newspapers, particularly *The Times*, it is an insult to the nation to fix a deadline of that kind and say "otherwise I am going to close them down". It is reminiscent of what the Chrysler Corporation tried to do.

**Mr Biffen**: It remains a matter of value judgment. The Board of Trade accountants concluded that in 1980 for the 11 months available there was a loss in respect of *The Sunday Times* of £600,000 after making allocations of overheads and before interest on capital.

Was the case then one of urgency? Thomsons announced in October last that because of continuing heavy losses it had decided to sell its Times titles—the three supplements, which were not newspapers for the purposes of the Act, as well as *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*—by March and it sought bids by December 31. Arrangements for closure of the newspapers, including the serving of redundancy notices to staff, were set in hand.

There is no doubt (he said) that if a new owner does not take over these newspapers, they will cease publication in March.

I am conscious that some people regard this as a Thomson bluff. This is an area where one has to make a judgment as to whether it is a Thomson bluff or not a Thomson bluff. It is my judgment, and the House can confirm or reject it, that I must say in my opinion closure is a real possibility.

**Mr John Smith**: He will appreciate how crucial is his assertion that *The Sunday Times* is not economic at present. Would he be prepared to make available to the House the figures upon which his accountants have arrived at that conclusion, and will he say whether the allocation of overheads to *The Sunday Times* made by his accountants is or is not that made by Warburgs who gave information to potential purchasers?

**Mr Biffen**: It was the judgment of the Department of Trade accountants working on the figures supplied by Warburgs. It turns on the allocation ultimately of the overheads as between *The Sunday Times* and *The Times* within the organization.

**Mr Robert Adley** (Christchurch and Lymington, C): Have his accountants worked on the assumption that the unhelpful attitude of the unions, which has brought about the financial situation at Thomson, will continue? Is that the basis on which he has made his judgment?

**Mr Biffen**: *No. The analysis has* been made over the last 11 months on the basis that that was a period relatively free from the adverse impact of the shutdown.

But no view was taken, and in my view under the Act I could not take a view, of what might be any potential profitable position well into the future. That is not the factor that has to weigh with me in determining the economics of this.

**Mr Douglas Jay** (Wandsworth, Battersea, North, Lab): Surely what he said is not fully convincing? If it is true that Warburg has informed potential purchasers that *The Sunday Times* would be making profits in the next few years, how does he explain his view that it is not economically viable?

**Mr Biffen**: *For the reasons I have* just explained.

There is no doubt that if a new owner does not take over these newspapers they will cease publication in March. This is an area where I agree that some Labour MPs believe that simply is not likely and that Thomson would disavow their statement on this matter.

I must say I am satisfied that the conditions of section 58(3) are met in this case, and I have to decide whether to opt for a reference or to give my consent.

I approach this decision with an established preference for newspaper mergers to be examined by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Newspapers are special and their ownership is a proper matter for public concern.

The impending closure of the newspapers clearly poses a real problem. The 1973 Act required that the commission must complete its investigations within three months unless the Secretary of State, because he is persuaded that there are special reasons, gives the Commission a further period of three months. I am not empowered to require a report in a shorter period.

It has been suggested that we should have a quick investigation. I am sure that Mr Smith does not want a superficial study but is looking for a proper examination of the issues.

The chairman of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission was asked whether notwithstanding the three months allowed for an investigation of a newspaper merger under the Act, already a short period compared with that for other inquiries, he could complete an inquiry in a significantly shorter period. Sir Godfray Le Quesne, fully recognising both the urgency of this matter and its importance, considered this question with some care.

In view of the possible scope of the inquiry and the statutory requirements governing the contents of the report, Sir Godfray concluded that if they were to conduct an adequate inquiry, he could not promise a report in under eight weeks—still a significant reduction on the period allowed in the Act.

I am conscious that in some quarters there is a feeling that the Thomson closure timetable could have been arranged to allow time for a *monopolies investigation*. I can only say that the request for my consent to the transfer of the titles to News International was received on January 23, and on the *best possible timetable*, a Monopolies and Mergers Commission report could not have been available before *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* had ceased publication.

**Mr Patrick Cormack** (South-West Staffordshire, C): Has he talked to the Thomson Organisation about *this? Is he not profoundly unhappy* about the pistol put to his head?

**Mr Biffen**: I have talked to the Thomson Organisation. We would be much happier working under much less constraint. But delay would affect the deal agreed between Thomson and News International, probably requiring the reopening of negotiations.

I am told that the discussions between the possible new owner and the unions could not begin until the decision was taken following the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report.

A reference to the commission (he went on) triggers a series of delays clearly beyond the present closure plans.

I should add that the commission is required to investigate a particular application and to report whether or not it judges that application to be against the public interest, and to recommend to the Secretary of State whether any, and if so what, conditions might be attached to the transfer.

Some commentators have implied that the commission can look at all the possible bidders for the papers and recommend one they think best. But this misconceives the commission's function.

The choice I faced was whether to insist on a commission investigation and risk closure of *The Times* titles, with 4,000 redundancies and the possibility of the permanent closure of *The Times*.

I mentioned the importance of the character of *The Times* being preserved—the relationship between the proprietor and the editor that has been established at the time of the Thomson acquisition, and I know that it has been assumed that this would be an essential point in any Monopolies and Mergers Commission investigation.

The Act provides for my consent to be given conditionally or unconditionally, and if the Monopolies and Mergers Commission were to recommend any conditions, these too could only be brought into effect as conditions attached to my consent.

After earnest consideration, and to avoid disruption and uncertainty, I have concluded that I should give my consent forthwith, and without a Monopolies Commission investigation—(Cries of "disgraceful")—to the transfer of Times Newspapers to News International, subject to certain conditions.

**Mr Biffen** then went on to read out the conditions to his consent.

These are set out in full on page 2.

I am taking steps (he said) to ensure that these conditions are entrenched. Those on editorial independence will be incorporated into the Articles of Association of The Times Newspapers companies and any change in the relevant articles would in future require my consent.

That requirement as well as the other conditions will be backed up by the sanctions provided for in the Act.

He continued: I realise that the transfer of two such prestigious newspapers as *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* to someone who is already a substantial newspaper proprietor must inevitably raise the important question of the public interest.

The concentration in ownership is, on the face of it, disturbing, though I must say that *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* are appealing to different ends of the market from the existing publications of News International—*The Sun* and *News of the World*.

Moreover, the conditions attaching to my consent to the transfer will deal satisfactorily with this problem as well as with that of editorial freedom.

I do not deny that there is normally a great deal to be said for a thorough Monopolies Commission inquiry in contentious mergers and the safeguards that course contains. That course was available to me but in these circumstances it would have been inexcusable if, by causing delay and creating uncertainty, I had taken any steps which might have resulted in permanent closure of one, and perhaps both, of these great newspapers.

He hoped and believed that his judgment in agreeing to the merger application with the conditions attached would secure a continuing quality of journalism that was to the national advantage.

# Bidding process unfairly conducted–MP

**Mr Jo Grimond** (Orkney and Shetland, L), a trustee of *The Guardian*, said it had not been stressed enough that there were other people in the field besides Mr Murdoch.

*The Times* journalists' organization, JOTT, had formed an alliance with another organization initiated by the Editor, Mr William Rees-Mogg, and backed by an extremely respectable board. It was time the possibility was looked at of associating the journalists with the running of their own newspapers.

This was exactly what *The Times* journalists wanted to do. The cooperative the journalists had set up had put in a preliminary offer.

If the Secretary of State was wrong, as he (Mr Grimond) suspected he was, about the viability of *The Sunday Times*, the whole of his case fell to the ground and he should exercise his discretion in sending the matter to the Monopolies Commission.

Parliament could not have legislation made a nonsense of because people laid down a time-table.

**Mr Jonathan Aitken** (East Thanet, C) said it was a sad day for the Conservative Party which appeared to have abandoned its traditional role of the opponent of large monopolies.

Mr Murdoch had strewn assurances and safeguards on newspaper and television ownership like confetti all round the world and in far too many instances those assurances had proved to be worthless.

The assurances that he had given, together with his track record, had to be considered with, at the very least, extreme caution.

He had been making changes in the editorials of *The Sunday Times* and *The Times* although he was not yet owner. He believed *that situation* would continue and would probably deteriorate unless the most stringent, legally binding safeguards were obtained from Mr Murdoch by the Government.

The Department of Trade had been taken for a ride by the Thomson Organisation because the threat of closure if the deal with Mr Murdoch was not allowed to go through was an empty threat. The Thomson Organisation had set an artificial deadline for selling the newspapers.

There had been plenty of serious alternative bidders. The journalists consortium had serious finance behind it. But far more formidable than that were three major groups. There was Lonrho whose financial offer was believed to be in excess of Mr Murdoch's; Associated Newspapers had put up a substantial offer as had Atlantic Richfield.

One has to say (he said) after talking with these three organizations that the bidding process for *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* has not been fairly or openly conducted according to general commercial rules.

The chairman of Warburgs was Lord Roll. In this capacity he must take the prime responsibility for what many saw as the less than even-handed treatment of bidders other than Rupert Murdoch.

The same Lord Roll was also a national director of Times Newspapers. The question had to be asked: what was the role of Lord Roll? Was there a conflict of interest here?

He understood the prospectus put out by Warburgs stated unequivocally that *The Sunday Times* was a profitable paper and was going to become still more profitable. That must be highly relevant.

The Secretary of State's decision might yet be tested by the courts. He said that on the basis of a conversation he had had with the managing director of Associated Newspapers who indicated his company was likely to test it with an injunction.

He thought the Secretary of State may well have acted in an incorrect manner. That was why he would be with the Opposition in the lobbies.

**Mr Phillip Whitehead** (Derby, North, Lab) said it was the Prime Minister who had dictated that Rupert was owed a favour and that this should not go to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

He would not believe for one moment that Mr Murdoch only appeared as the favoured bidder some time in January. He believed the discussions were going on for much longer. He believed this deadline was set precisely so that when the debate eventually had to be held in the House a minister could with impunity get up and say what he had said this afternoon.

**Mr Biffen** said he discussed with Thomsons and News International the implications of an eight weeks' MMC report indicating to them the real advantage there would be if they could so extend the deadline so that there would be a report. They said they were not prepared to extend the deadline.

**Mr Whitehead**: In that case I can only say he did not extend his powers of persuasion very far.

Mr Murdoch's news media concerns in Australia had caused legal challenges and a large measure of public concern. *The Australian* was supposed to be the top newspaper in that country. During the 1975 strike the staff of *The Australian* told their proprietor that they could not be loyal to a propaganda sheet.

He did not want to see, as a result of a lapse of concentration by the House and an increased concentration of power in Fleet Street, open letters of that sort being addressed by the staff of *The Times* or *The Sunday Times* to their new proprietor.

*The Australian* had had three editors in the past year. Mr Murdoch's editors came and went pretty quickly all the way round the world. Mr Murdoch was in the editorial room of *The Sunday Times* on Saturday night putting something in. That was not to say that he was distorting the record, but he was there altering the galley proofs.

The whole operation had been designed to circumvent the Fair Trading Act. That strengthened the case for submitting it to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

**Mr George Gardiner** (Reigate, C) said he spoke as a former journalist who worked on *The Sunday Times* for a number of years. The House should welcome Mr Murdoch's willingness to buy Times Newspapers.

The provisional sale agreed was the best that could be obtained in the circumstances for the newspapers concerned and for the reading public.

Mr Biffen had announced today some pretty strict conditions for approving this transfer. They were stiff conditions and they were entrenched.

Listening to Mr Foot last week, he had suspected that there were certain political implications in the objections. It seemed to him that Mr Foot was objecting simply because Mr Murdoch would put together tits and Toryism and both were good marketable commodities.

The test of Mr Murdoch as owner of the papers should be one only: could he provide what was needed to make it a viable and successful newspaper? By all the tests he was the right man.

**Mr Geoffrey Robinson** (Coventry, North-West, Lab) said that in his first major decision, Mr Biffen had failed to stand up to the Prime Minister. That was the reality of the situation. Straightforwardly it was a pay-off for *The Sun* (Conservative protests.)

**Mr Peter Emery** (Honiton, C) said the Secretary of State was to be congratulated for making the difficult decision not to refer the matter to the commission.

If *The Sunday Times* had to operate as the Act required as a going concern as a separate newspaper the overhead factor allocated would be very much greater than that which was allocated at this moment.

**Mr Ronald Leighton** (Newham, North-East, Lab) *said if* the free flow of information was the lifeblood of democracy, the present ownership structure of the British press was incompatible with it. It might embarrass Conservative MPs, but Mr Rupert Murdoch was an efficient predator in this jungle.

He wanted to see the eventual breakup of the monopoly in newspapers. It was one of the unacceptable faces of capitalism. Meantime, trade unionists would have to do their best to exist within that system.

And it is our view (he said) that the most viable offer is the one from Mr Murdoch.

**Mr Tristan Garel-Jones** (Watford, C) said the colour supplement of *The Sunday Times* was printed by Sun Printers in his constituency. The unions involved, and management, were delighted with the deal. Management had told him that if the deal did not go through some printers would move immediately on to short-time working.

Any conditions put on the deal by the minister were legally binding under the Fair Trading Act. Anyone guilty of an offence against it it would be liable to imprisonment for a maximum of two years, or to a fine, or both.

**Mr Norman Atkinson** (Haringey, Tottenham, Lab) said there was an anti-socialist monopoly in the newspapers. Trade unions, however, wanted continuity of production above all. They asked what was the alternative to Rupert Murdoch's offer. The conclusion must be that there was no viable alternative at the moment.

The Labour movement looked to the day when they would have for themselves a newspaper which would be favourable to their point of view without being tied to a political party.

**Mr Christopher Price** (Lewisham, West, Lab) said the supplements formed an important part of the country's educational and cultural life and should be protected in the same way under the assurances as the two newspapers.

**Mr John Biffen** said a number of MPs had talked about bluff and counter-bluff. He was not sure that was the most wise posture holding the public interest in these matters.

The sanctions implicit in the conditions were formidable. He had been asked about the extent to which they could secure editorial independence.

The motion for the adjournment was rejected by 281 votes to 239—Government majority, 42.

# Protection for collections of eggs in museums

House of Lords

Collections of birds' eggs already in the possession of museums before enactment of the Wildlife and the Countryside Bill were not intended to be the subject of prosecutions, the **Earl of Avon**, a Lord in Waiting, said when the Bill was considered in committee.

**Lord Montagu of Beaulieu** moved an amendment to Clause 1 (Protection of wild birds, their nests and eggs) which would provide a defence for bona-fide museums with existing collections of birds and eggs able to show that these collections were in their possession before the passing of the Act.

He said he was not an egg collector but the Council of Museums Associations; of which he was a member, were concerned on this point. It would be difficult in the future for museums to prove the source of their eggs if indeed it were known.

**Lord Donaldson of Kingsbridge** (Lab), for the Opposition, said his party supported the amendment.

**Lord Mowbray and Stourton** (C) said the amendment only covered museums. The private person whose grandfather might have had a collection needed protection too.

**The Earl of Avon** said should a case come to court the Government believed it would be sufficient for a museum to have kept records of all eggs received after enactment of the Bill and to swear an affadavit that all other eggs in its possession were held before the Act applied to them.

He understood museums had recently been advised that for their protection they should keep good records and mark and protect their property.

The Government believed the amendment created more problems than it attempted to solve. Pre-Act egg collections were not intended and not likely to be the subject of prosecutions.

The amendment was withdrawn.

There were one or two wildfowl like the wigeon and the pinkfoot which one could only shoot at night, **Viscount Massereene and Ferrard** (C) explained in opposing an amendment banning the shooting of any wild bird between an hour after sunset and an hour before sunrise.

You can (he said) only shoot wigeon if the moon is right and the tide and cloud is right. This only happens two or three times a month.

**Lord Beaumont of Whitley** (L) who moved the amendment, said the shooting of wildfowl and waders at night was not as selective as it ought to be. It was easy for protected species to be shot by mistake.

**Lord Buxton of Alsa** (C) said the amendment was grossly unfair to a very small section of the community. They were a band of people around the coast, dedicated enthusiasts who owned no land and had nowhere else to go.

**Lord Leatherland** (Lab) asked to say a few words on behalf of courting couples.

My memory (he said) is not what it used to be but I believe sometimes well-intentioned young people sit in hedgerows at night. They want to sit there peacefully and uninterrupted. Just think what would happen if at some emotional moment there was a shot and they were peppered with pellets from 80 yards?

**Lord Buxton of Alsa**: There is no *known species on this planet that* courts in 10 degrees of frost at night in January.

**The Earl of Avon**, a Lord in Waiting, said the Government had taken advice on the practice of night shooting. They must remember that in the main this type of shooting was only possible on a few nights each winter and its practioners were few and, for the most part, the most skilled of wild fowlers.

The amendment was withdrawn.

The committee stage was adjourned.

The Bill of Rights Bill completed its report stage and the Imprisonment (Temporary Provisions) Act (Continuance No 3) Order was approved.

House adjourned, 10 pm.

# Proposals for heavier lorries would be unacceptable if they worsened state of the roads

The Government could ensure by taxation that there was no unjustified incentive for lorry traffic, **Mr Norman Fowler**, Minister of Transport, said n opening a debate on the Armitage report. At present, he added, the heaviest lorries did not pay their full track cost and both sides of the House agreed that action to rectify this anomaly should be taken.

**Mr Fowler** (Sutton Coldfield, C) said there was deep public concern about the effect on the environment of the lorry. At the same time, there was a strong feeling in industry that economic benefits could be gained by allowing heavier lorries.

The essential question was whether the economic benefits of the lorry could be gained without paying an environmental price which the public would regard as too high. In other words, where did the public interest lie?

No decisions had been taken and the debate was part of the process of fulfilling the Government's promise to consult the House. It was not an end of the process. He was still willing to listen to or receive any representation about the report following the debate.

There were still too many towns and villages choked by heavy traffic. It remained a priority of the Government to seek to improve the situation by the construction of bypasses and relief roads. Funds were limited but it would do everything it could to achieve a road building programme which brought environmental benefit.

The report made proposals for lower than EEC axle weights which, if implemented, would involve no further expenditure on bridges. It drew on work by the Transport and Road Research Laboratory to estimate that because of the larger amount of axles the heavier vehicles proposed eventually reduced road damage.

The Government would not accept proposals for heavier vehicles if it was advised that this would worsen the state of the roads.

The report rejected the idea of even bigger lorries. Armitage did not see the proposal for an additional half metre on articulated lorries to bring the maximum legal length from 15 to 15.5 metres as resulting in lorries getting more intrusive and recommended that the intrusive part, the trailer, should be restricted to present dimensions.

The issue was whether the Armitage Committee charted a way forward that the country could take. It was a package of proposals but he hoped they could seek as much common ground as possible. No decisions had yet been taken.

**Mr Albert Booth**, chief Opposition spokesman on transport, (Barrow-in-Furness, Lab) said over the last 33 years there had been a continuous trend towards the use of heavier lorries. There had been a massive switch from rail to road in freight costs. Between 1953 and 1979 the ratio of freight carried by road to rail increased from three to one to nine to one.

The judgment they had to make was whether they wanted the trend towards greater use of the heavy lorry to continue, stop at the stage which had been reached or be reversed.

It was most important to remove the large numbers of heavy lorries from town and village centres. Many more by-passes were needed.

People and lorries just do not mix (he said) on the sort of roads in most of our towns and cities, and when attempts are made to mix them people are killed and maimed.

It would be 15 years before they would have the sort of by-pass programme needed to deal with heavier lorries. He was dissatisfied with the way the Armitage report had dealt with the environmental issues. The bad environmental effects were there for everyone to see.

There were areas in which the report did not measure up to the seriousness of the problems caused by lorries.

**Mr Christopher Patten** (Bath, C) said he represented a lorry battered constituency in which the announcement of heavier lorry weights would be greeted with about as much enthusiasm as a fresh outbreak of Dutch elm disease would be in a rural constituency.

They could not expect people to accept an increase in lorry weights without the other environmental measures set out in the report.

**Mr Clement Freud** (Isle of Ely, L) said at present there seemed to be unfair competition by the road hauliers who were not abiding by the law and were getting it all too cheap. That was the main reason for the decline in rail freight.

**Mr Gary Waller** (Brighouse and Spenborough, C) said heavier lorries did not need to be longer or larger lorries. It was size which seemed to determine people's fears and apprehensions about lorries

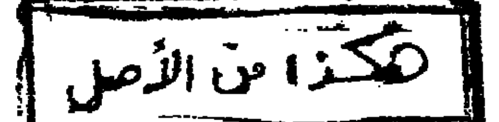
**Mr Frank Dobson** (Camden, Holborn and St Pancras, South, Lab) said Mr Fowler had to give an undertaking that he was not prepared to go ahead with an increase in lorry weights without it being part of a general package which would ensure there would be the imposition of severe environmental controls on existing lorry fleets.

## Parliamentary notices

House of Commons
Today at 2.30: British Nationality Bill, second reading.
House of Lords
Today at 2.30: Debates on British-Spanish agreement on Gibraltar and [illegible] English language.

## Correction

Remarks about the punishment of drunken drivers were wrongly attributed to Lord Greenhill of Harrow in our report in the issue of January 22 of last Wednesday's House of Lords debate on transport.



# THE ARTS

## Last night's television

### Dear Brutus
BBC 1

### Michael Ratcliffe

*Dear Brutus* began violently with angry Edwardian ladies striding from room to room in a country house like Bacchantes after a disappointing meal. Their collective determination, in which they excitedly and rudely interrupted one another, was quite terrifying until it emerged that it was a device to frighten the butler, who had stolen their rings, into explaining why their eccentric host had invited them there on Midsummer's Eve. It was another Barrie trick. What we had now to turn our attention to was the possibility that if they all went down to the wood that night they would be sure of a big surprise.

Part of the Barrie Problem—and it is a problem, because the plays cannot be ignored entirely as both our national companies have ignored them—is that one moment he is walking on very firm ground and the next is up to his neck in a swamp of contrivance. "I feel sorry for you", says the drunken artist to his childless wife. "I feel sorry for myself", she retorts with a blistering straightforwardness unthinkable in *Man and Superman*, but when they go into the wood and Will meets the daughter he longed for and never had, and Alice becomes the destitute wife of the man she thought she should have married in the first place, we simply want to look the other way. It is for their energy, charm, nastiness and pain, not for their remorse, that Barrie's characters interest us now.

*Dear Brutus*, written in 1917 out of the bitter misery made evident in Andrew Birkin's *Barrie and the Lost Boys*, is almost entirely about remorse, the desire for "a second chance", and I was curious to know what Alan Bridges and an excellent cast would make of it. The answer is quite a lot—Alan Webb's splintery old host even got that whimsical business with the roses past us—but still not quite enough. At 80 minutes it was all a bit rushed for one thing and not all the second chances came across without confusion. But the spasmodic wilderness and the bitterness did, while Chloe Salaman's soul-sister to Tinkerbell and Mary Rose ("Daddy come back! I don't want to be a might-have-been!") was convincing enough to make sure that we kept looking, just in case the spell might start to work after all.

### When the Dancing had to Stop
BBC 1

### Miles Kington

When you dance on stage, Nureyev told us last night, you should have such total commitment that the public could never imagine your having a family, a lover or a homelife. This *Omnibus* film set out to explore exactly those offstage pressures in Lynn Seymour's life and when the producer, Vanya Kewley, started filming last May she must have known that there was a great deal to work on: two failed marriages, three children to bring up and pay for, worries over an Achilles tendon and a career hiatus at the age of 40. What she could not have known was that, before filming finished, Seymour would also be involved in a second foot injury, a controversial appearance at a Palladium gala evening, an engagement to a 29-year-old rock composer and a headline-grabbing resignation from the Royal Ballet, all of which the film made good use of.

In *Play for Today* the plot would seem all too improbable but, thanks to Seymour's willingness to talk frankly and toughly about things (nice to know that ballet dancers use foul language occasionally) and her imperviousness to the cameras (both husbands were photographers), the contrast between onstage perfection and unsatisfactory old reality came across beautifully. What came across even more strongly, at least to me, was the idea that deep inside Lynn Seymour does not want to dance any more. Pregnancy, she said, was wonderful.

It meant you did not have to dance for a while. Again, going on stage was rather like entering the bullring: if blood was not spilt, the audience felt it was not getting its money's worth and she too would not go on stage—or go to see someone else dance—if there was not a prospect of blood and guts, artistically speaking.

We were given good rations of Seymour in top form from past films, though after hearing Lynn Seymour describing her work it was not the dramatic quality that struck me so much as the thought of the sheer effort involved and also the contrast between that whirling actress and the tired, non-stop smoking mother of three talking revealingly but somewhat dejectedly about her art. The best times, she said, came in the rehearsal room with just the choreographer, her partner and the plonking piano. So were all those cancellations, resignations and even the slap in the public's face at the gala attempts to tell herself something? I like not dancing fairies, she said of classical ballet. I have a feeling she likes *not dancing tout court*.

# The homecoming of Judy Campbell



Forty years ago Judy Campbell started out in Rep playing Miss Warren in *Mrs Warren's Profession* and Eliza in *Pygmalion*; this winter for the first time since those early days she is back in Shaw, only now of course playing the mothers—a few weeks ago she was Mrs Warren at the Nottingham Playhouse, and now she is Mrs Higgins in the Young Vic revival of *Pygmalion* which opens this evening. Once that first night is over she then goes straight into rehearsal for her first-ever Shakespearian role, the Duchess of York in the Young Vic's *Richard II*:

"When I was young they asked me to go to the Old Vic and I couldn't because of the children, so now here I am at last, old and at the Young Vic. I think it's rather lovely being sixty: people suddenly seem to have remembered that I'm still alive and available for work."

Especially her son. Judy Campbell's children include not only Jane Birkin, a kind of Yvonne Arnaud in reverse who has managed to become a bigger film star in France than many homegrown French, but also Andrew Birkin who wrote the triumphant BBC television series and book about J. M. Barrie and the lost Llewellyn-Davies boys:

"His latest project is a film based on the Saki short story *Shredni Vashtar* and he asked me to play the awful Mrs deRopp whom the boy prays his ferret will kill. 'Thank you', I said, 'but you didn't have that bad a childhood, did you?' He said if I wouldn't play it he'd get somebody to look just like me, so in the end I did it myself."

Judy Campbell is in her own definition the star who never was; though she spent several years as Noel Coward's leading lady in four successive plays of his (*Blithe Spirit, This Happy Breed, Present Laughter, Relative Values*) and indeed sang with him on hospital concert tours in the war, though she was the first ever to sing "A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square", though she starred in the first-ever Ayckbourn comedy and herself wrote a play which starred Kay Kendall under Rex Harrison's direction, she remains curiously unknown to a number of younger theatregoers despite one of the most dinstinctively husky voices this side of Joan Greenwood.

"People think I've never taken the theatre quite seriously enough, but that's not altogether true; it's just that I married outside the business and somehow the family life often seemed more important than going to a theatre every night. Besides, for years we lived on a farm beyond Newbury and before they built the M4 it took hours to get to London and I could never find a nanny or a housekeeper who wanted to *live* on a farm, so that was that. Not that I regret a moment of it: we're coming to our thirty-seventh wedding anniversary and I still see all the children almost all the time, and you can't achieve that sort of family by going to a theatre *six* nights a week."

Though she herself in fact came of a highly theatrical family:

"My father ran away from home in Norfolk to be an actor, changing his name to Campbell when he heard there was a management looking for Scots accents. He was divinely good-looking but far too shy ever to make a real success, and after a few years of doing really *terrible melodramas* round the provinces he decided he could write them better than that himself. So he became a dramatist, wrote some hugely successful dramas with titles like *From Convent to Throne* and *The Sin of Her Childhood* and with the money, which was considerable, he bought the theatre in Grantham where my brother was born. He became a scientist.

"All I ever played at Grantham were maids, but then I did get to the Arts Theatre at Cambridge where Baxter Somerville put me into *Pygmalion* with Esme Percy who gave me all the moves that Shaw had given to Mrs Patrick Campbell. I'd like to pass them on in my turn to Lesley-Anne Down who's our Eliza now, but this is a totally different kind of production, based on the version Shaw wrote for the film, and we're doing it with Donald Eccles playing him as a narrator so we can work in some of those marvellous stage directions instead of any scenery."

It was early in the war that Judy Campbell first made her name as both a singer and an actress:

"They wanted me to go into revue doing some monologues, and one night the director gave me a song by Eric Maschwitz he wanted to try out. I told him I couldn't sing because I'd broken my voice during a long Vic Oliver tour of *Idiot's Delight* but I said if he liked I'd croak it instead, and that was 'A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square'. When Rex came to do *Fair Lady* 20 years later they called that technique *sprechtgesang*: I just called it talking to the music, but people seemed to like it, especially Noel, who came to the revue three times and then put me into his own plays."

Sadly, there is now in existence only one very faint BBC archive recording of her singing that song:

"In the war record materials were in very short supply, so while the revue was on nobody made a disc; then a few months later when there was enough vulcanite to make one I was in the original production of *Watch on the Rhine* so they said would I mind very much if they got Vera Lynn to sing it instead, and she's on all the records. I can't say I really mind that very much; I've always thought of myself as an actress rather than a singer, and that little revue was almost accidental, though I'm delighted it brought me to Coward's attention.

"I spent more than a year on tour with Noel, and between the shows we'd go off to the nearest army or navy hospital and do concerts; Noel did most of the work, but I did about 15 minutes in the middle while he rested his voice. He knew the whole thing scared me rigid and that I'd rather have played *Hedda Gabler* without a rehearsal than one of those concerts, so he used to give me a nip of gin before we went on, and then he taught me how to walk on with confidence and stand there quite still until you had hush. I used to do 'Nightingale' and then a lot of Cole Porter, anything with a really good lyric and a nice simple tune. Noel once said my trouble was that I looked like a fascinating bitch but underneath I was really just an old lavender bag, though I think in a way that was maybe more true of himself.

"But he encouraged me to write, as well, and first of all I did a terrible comedy about the Crusades which Ambrosine Phillpotts played quite marvellously just for one Sunday-night performance at the Stage Society. Then, years later, I was with Anna Massey in *The Reluctant Debutante* and I wanted to write something for her so I finished a comedy called *The Bright One*, but then Rex Harrison bought it for his wife Kay Kendall who was dying of leukaemia, and it was the last play she ever did and so traumatic for us all that it rather cured me of wanting to be a playwright.

Judy Campbell's only real regret, however, is that she has never yet managed to play Broadway:

"And now, with all the union restrictions on English actors there, it looks as though I never shall. Just once I'd have liked to see my name up there in lights; in the past every time I got a New York offer I seemed to get pregnant at the same time. But apart from that, no regrets at all, and the marvellous thing about the Young Vic is that it's like coming home to weekly Rep once again. It's cocoa time instead of West End champagne, and I feel I've come home at last."

**Sheridan Morley**

## The Philadelphia Story
Playhouse, Oxford

### Irving Wardle

*Although the title of* Philip Barry's twice filmed Broadway hit seems to promise more than it delivers, the play in fact contains two Philadelphia stories.

The first shows the descent of a New York reporter-photographer team on the Philadelphia scene to investigate its industry and history as a prelude to tearing its fashionable society into shreds. But as house guests of the wealthy Lord family on the eve of their daughter's remarriage, they gradually warm so much to their privileged hosts that Mike, the reporter, wanly remarks, "I've lost my angle: got *tolerant* all of a sudden". Along those lines, the Philadelphia story never gets written.

However, there remains the *second story* of a collision between the Lord clan, with their fancy names and playboy occupations, and the self-made radicals who move in to do a hatchet job on them. Along this line, the two parties learn from each other and wind up all on excellent terms.

All, that is, but for the stuffed-shirt industrialist fiancé whose self-righteous departure brands him an outsider in the group. In one sense, the play is an elegant demonstration of the American melting pot theory: "sophisticated" as Barry's contemporaries would have said in the 1930s. But it also has high comic aspirations to give the public a lesson in manners. The word that recurs throughout the play is "class": not social class, but class in the sense of Kennedy's famous dismissal of Nixon, for which the English term is "style". The Lords have got it irrespective of their money, and Mike has got it irrespective of his underdog ideology. They are literate, quick-witted, open to fresh experience and they have an appetite for fun.

It is, in short, a piece for *thoroughbred performers*. Not necessarily superstars but actors who can compensate for the lack of a strong narrative line by the cut of their clothes, their ability to point lines with lightness and speed, and to get into the wrong without losing charm. Not many of these qualities, alas, are to be found among Gordon McDougall's company. It is led by Gayle Hunnicutt in what has to be called the Katherine Hepburn part of Tracy—the spoiled, unassailable virgin goddess who thaws out under criticism into a golden girl ready for a spot of nude bathing and reunion with her first husband. Miss Hunnicutt has the right racehorse looks and a fine set of long swishing dresses; she also does a selfless character assassination on Tracy in the early scenes as a sour dismissive narcissist forever putting people down with flat sardonic one-liners. What is missing is the promise of something worth reclaiming in her; and when the process does begin it is like the spasmodic jumps of an electric clock—a moment of mortified reflection, a beaming smile, a collapse into submission brought on by too much champagne. The effect is that of old-fashioned shrew-breaking: and Barry, though he wrote the piece 40 years ago, was not guilty of that kind of sexist propaganda.

The same could be said of Alan Rickman's Mike, the Philadelphia Petruchio, his dour foot-in-the-door rudeness unallayed by the charm and intelligence that should inhibit the Lords from showing him the door. Lewis Fiander, as the debonaire first husband waiting for his turn to come round again, does achieve the right kind of animation and pleasure in handling well-written lines. But one out of three does not make up much of a triangle. The pre-war American repertory is a large neglected field, and I hope that Oxford and other theatres will continue to explore it: but they have not found the tune this time.

## Gotcha/Killing Time
Shaw

### Ned Chaillet

"Barrie Keeffe's greatest hits" might be the best description of the Shaw Theatre's double bill, *Gotcha* and *Killing Time*. It is rather early to call their reappearance a revival since that smacks of historical curiosity, of a reassessment of a neglected figure. There is nothing dusty about Mr Keeffe and since these plays originally appeared a few years ago, first at the Soho Poly and then in separate trilogies, he has produced finer work and will produce more. But they remain as viscerally effective as blows to the solar plexus and they retain the urgency of rock music. Along with *Abide with Me*, they are effectively his "greatest hits", for they are early works which have shaped his image for audiences.

*Gotcha* is the play with the incendiary theme of rebellion in the comprehensives and *Killing Time* is the story of three unemployed youths trying to spot a car for a car thief. That the anger and point of the plays has not dated is regrettably obvious even as the company which performs them steps forward to point out that the Shaw Theatre Company is one of the Arts Council's Christmas cuts. It will be the last production by the company.

Had it been chosen after the cuts, it would have been a good farewell selection. Chosen before them it is a ringing vindication of Michael Croft's work with the Shaw and National Youth Theatre, a victim of the same cuts, as Sir Ralph Richardson has pointed out in *The Times*.

The director of the plays, Bill Buffery, is a former member of the NYT, as are several of the actors, and as is Mr Keeffe. The power and authenticity of the acting and writing is a world removed from the old formal skills of the English theatre and they come together most impressively in *Killing Time*, a play Mr Keeffe wrote for the NYT.

Mr Buffery, then still an amateur, directed that first production and his maturity is everywhere recognizable in his new staging. It is a difficult, profane piece of writing, ranging through slums and parks and the West End with the inturruption of sudden soliloquies. As performed now, it rolls with a brilliant comic pace, hiccupping only slightly in the changes of scene.

The comedy, as usual, is already plentifully there in Mr Keeffe's writing, and his picture of the three young men who flirt with criminality is brilliantly sketched also to show their greater potential. The actors, David Lear, Robert Glenister and Sylvester Williams, convincingly establish the friendship of the characters but it is Mr Williams as the black youth trained in refrigeration who most tellingly explores the writing for its full range of experience.

In *Gotcha*, however, although the power of the play comes through, Mr Buffery seems to have forgotten to instil fear in the hostages held by the schoolboy.

## David Wilson-Johnson
Purcell Room

### William Mann

The versatility of David Wilson-Johnson's well-nourished baritone voice was demonstrated with something like a *tour de force* in his recital on Monday, with David Owen Norris as his uncommonly responsive pianist. For Wolf's Michelangelo songs it sounded grave and dark, never quite the bass demanded by the composer, though the low notes were to be found when needed.

Poulenc's songs *The Painter's Work*, poems by Paul Eluard about seven contemporary artists simultaneously characterized in music, drew from Wilson-Johnson a warm, russet-hued high baritone, light on the breath and debonair. In a Percy Grainger group of folksong arrangements, particularly in "The Sprig of Thyme", yet a third vocal personality emerged, robust, yet fine-grained. We had heard something similar in the first half of the recital, devoted to *Brighella's World*, a new set of songs expressly composed for Wilson-Johnson by Edward Cowie.

Wilson-Johnson is a linguist, so his biography declares and as we could remark in his expert, sensitive treatment of French and German in the *Poulenc* and *Wolf* songs. For him, as for such a polyglot composer as Mozart, the text must influence the music's tone of voice, and he is fortunate in being able to sing in a variety of musical accents without relinquishing his interpretative self—his was more than a feat of mimicry.

No doubt was left that he is a serious interpreter of song, able to convey a particular musical atmosphere in the first phrase or so of each song—probably the more exactly because he, like his pianist, also has a ready and likable sense of humour, brought out in Warlock's "Yarmouth Fair", even to a touch of malice.

Especially memorable was Wilson-Johnson's account, sombre and impassioned, of "Six Dukes went a-fishing". The Purcell Room acoustics were inclined to distort his tone at climaxes, though his voice is bigger than he volunteered here; even so, he does sometimes sing round the note, and not plumb in the middle of it, which could prove dangerous later if he does not concentrate his intonation.

Cowie's new songs derive from his recent *commedia dell' arte* opera, called simply *Commedia*, as their title implies. There are nine of them, each concerned with the clown's attitude to an aspect of life (magic, words, dreaming, war, love, are the first five): precise texts, sober vocal line, highly ornate and brilliant piano commentary, rather loosely strung but compelling.

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions

## Book review

### The First of the Tudors
A Study of Henry VII and His Reign

### By Michael van Cleave Alexander
*(Croom Helm, £12.95)*

Henry VII is the most under-appreciated of our kings. And yet he ought not to be, for we have under our eyes one of the noblest of late medieval works in Henry VII's Chapel at Westminster—a monument to the spaciousness of his mind and taste. It was even finer before the Puritans destroyed the splendid stained glass, like that at King's, Cambridge, to which he largely contributed. He called in Torrigiano to create the figures which make the tomb perhaps the finest Renaissance piece north of the Alps.

We have a living monument to him in our present royal house, who may not realize—with their *tendresse* for the Stuarts—that it all goes back to, and was planned by, him in bringing off his daughter Margaret's marriage to James IV of Scotland. A difficult feat, it took him 10 years, for Scotland was tied to France by the Auld Alliance. Professor Alexander is at his best in these tedious diplomatic negotiations.

I find Heny VII far more interesting than big bouncing extroverts like Henry VIII or Oliver Cromwell. Elizabeth I had a high opinion of him: "my *good* grandfather", she once said—she never paid a tribute like that to her father, who had killed her mother. (Henry VIII was a Yorkist all over, just like his grandfather Edward IV, a *big*, womanizing, out-of-doors type, burly and fat.)



*Pietro Torrigiano's monument* to Henry VII in Westminster Abbey

Henry VII was slim in both senses of the word, very sharp, secretive, humane, a planner: he carefully planned the success of his rule, the right man for the job at the right time. His fault is thought to be that he became avaricious before the end. I find that interesting psychologically: he was over-compensating the insecurity of his early years. He once told the historian, Polydore Vergil, that he had spent the first fourteen years of his life in confinement, and the next, in exile. I wonder if he spoke English with an accent part-Welsh, part-French? He never had the gift of popularity, which many bad men have been able to command.

His background was fascinating: the early Tudors in Anglesey had been supporters of the Welsh resistance movement under Owen Glendower. Henry's grandmother was Henry V's widow, Catherine of France, who married the young Welsh squire. The Lady Margaret Beaufort, a very politic head—see her figure in Westminster Abbey—Henry's mother, was the heiress-general of John of Gaunt and of the Lancastrian claim to the throne. She used to sign herself "Margaret R"—perhaps *improperly, but it showed* what she thought of the matter.

The Professor is quite good about her patronage of learning, her splendid foundations at Cambridge, but is wrong in thinking Cambridge less than half the size of Oxford—it was beginning to draw level already in the fifteenth century. Professor Alexander's book is competent and conscientious, but hardly scintillating. What makes it difficult to bring Henry VII alive is that there is little in the way of personal correspondence.

One way to remedy that is to have a visual sense of the scenes where things happened, but American academics have no visual sense, especially apposite today. We should have been given the fascinating Welsh-Breton-French background (Henry did his serious reading in French), instead of a conventional chapter on Yorkist rule.

He does well to point out the happy marriage Henry made with Elizabeth of York, and the deep affection between him and his mother—such a contrast with the scandalous libel Richard III cast against the virtue of his pious mother. It is quite gratuitous to suggest that John Howard had anything to do with the murder of the Princes in the Tower—nobody said so at the time. Everybody knew who was responsible: the man who took their place. Howard's great-grandson gives us the Howard family tradition in his published book in 1583 as to Richard's "heinous crime". They knew; everybody knew. Hence Henry VII, who restored respectability to the throne, the architect of Tudor success. It is consoling today to read of success in politics and planning.

**A. L. Rowse**

SPORT

Football

# Thompson recovers from nightmare to keep the dream alive

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

Coventry 3 West Ham 2

The question is whether Coventry City will make their first appearance at Wembley or West Ham United their third in a year. The answer is no nearer after last night's outstanding Football League Cup semi-final round first leg at Highfield Road where Coventry scored three times in the last 18 minutes to save themselves after conceding two apparently damning goals.

The lead part in this dramatic tie was taken by Thompson, the Coventry forward, who gave West Ham their second goal and then scored twice in the right direction, hauling his team back into the game. He scored the winner with the last serious kick of the match.

Coventry have never been this close to a final and though they are also in the fifth round of the FA Cup, the nearness of the League Cup climax elevated the assignment at hand to something momentous. It was an odd reversal of the accepted roles with West Ham, the upper second division club, more accustomed to the tense situation than their first division opponents and seeming about to prove it.

Though they had thoughts of injustice with the manner of the two goals in the first half, Coventry at that stage really fell victim of West Ham's elegant composure. While generally committing only Cross and Goddard to the attack, reserving Devonshire for occasional forays along the line and frequent additional covering of Bodak's movements, West Ham still showed a high regard for the balance of their attacks, sweeping the pitch with some splendid football.

Coventry, until their revival, offered less diversification, concentrating much of the play on the left side where Roberts made robust and skilful attacks from the back, supporting Hunt, whose turn of speed is as sharp as ever. The outcome tended to be a solid clearance by Bonds, who revels in these occasions, and here immersed himself in the job of blocking everything that Coventry launched.

After living dangerously in the third minute when, from Hunt's centre Hateley's header drew a fine diving save from Parkes, West Ham gained confidence but were not so superior as to merit the daunting lead that Coventry offered them.

Not that Bonds himself was unworthy of his moment of joy when, after 27 minutes, Martin's pass out to Devonshire invited an urgent centre. It came, firm and low, for Bonds to strike an equally positive, powerful header that Sealey at first appeared to hold. The power of the header was such that Sealey allowed the ball to pass beneath him and a foot over the line. An astute linesman confirmed the goal.

Sealey had no sooner turned to his natural colour than he made another disastrous error to ruin an outstanding defensive covering operation by Thompson who had the initiative to follow Devonshire when he began a movement in the middle of the field.

Devonshire found Pike and his long pass ahead was regained by Devonshire but Thompson was with him and as they went into the penalty area, the Coventry man had possession and played the ball back towards Sealey who contrived to allow it to pass in front of him to finish in the net.

No amount of Coventry attacking in the last 10 minutes of the first half, and the early part of the second, compensated for those mistakes. To add to Sealey's unhappiness his counterpart, Parkes, had an inspired game, twice saving in breathtaking style from Bodak's shot and Thompson's dipping header.

The picture changed in an exciting four-minute snatch of intense Coventry attacks which, hitherto, West Ham had withstood, thanks in large measure to Brooking's willingness to play defensively. There was nothing to be done however when, after 72 minutes, Blair sent Thompson dashing in a straight line towards Parkes who correctly went just as directly towards him. Almost at the point of resistance Thompson slipped the ball past him.



Thompson : lead part in dramatic match.

Four minutes later, Coventry's despair was forgotten. Thomas thumped the ball into the penalty area from the right side. Parkes parried and Daly was there to knock in the equalizer.

For West Ham there could still have been satisfaction had Coventry not continued to drive onwards in a remarkable final effort and, with virtually the last kick of this thrilling game, Thompson more than made up for his earlier error. Receiving the ball from Hunt 20 yards out he had deceive Martin with a deft dummy before hurling a ferocious shot beyond Parkes's extended reach for a goal that could yet take Coventry to the final. Before that, though, there is the return on February 10 at Upton Park where West Ham have lost only once this season.

COVENTRY CITY: L. Sealey; D. Thomas, B. Roberts, A. Blair, P. Dyson, G. Gillespie, P. Bodak, G. Daly (sub), S. Jacobs, G. Thompson, M. Hateley, S. Hunt.
WEST HAM UNITED: P. Parkes; R. Stewart, P. Brush, W. Bonds, A. Martin, A. Devonshire, P. Allen, P. Goddard, D. Cross, T. Brooking, G. Pike.
Referee: G. Courtney (Durham).

Peter Keeling, former athlete on the track of a new career north of the Arctic Circle

# Journalist finding he can manage

Football's press boxes have frequently found room for former managers and players. Such names as Danny Blanchflower, Tony Pawson, Jackie Milburn and Jimmy Armfield do not in any way exhaust the list of footballers who have made the transition without the need for a ghost at their elbow. Movement in the opposite direction is less common. The trail to the manager's office at Highbury, established in the 1930s by George Allison, has not been beaten smooth by his successors.

Next month, Peter Keeling will take the first modest steps along a similar path. Keeling, a former international middle-distance runner, leaves behind a thriving news agency in Lancashire, a wife and four children, to manage a football club 250 miles north of the Arctic Circle. His contract with Tromsö, newly promoted to Norway's second division, is for twelve months.

An element of gamble and a dash of fantasy-fulfilment cannot be denied but there is enough in Peter Keeling's background to suggest that the odds against success are not as long as they might appear at first glance. Twenty years ago, with two children, a mortgage and no money in the bank, he gave up a position as a staff journalist and turned freelance to further his career as an athlete. Achievements then fortify his ambitions now.

As a schoolboy Peter Keeling stood on the terraces at Bramall Lane, developing a passion for football in general and Sheffield United in particular. His natural talents, though, took him into athletics, which occupied most of his leisure time after he joined the *Sheffield Telegraph* at the age of seventeen. It was six years before a strike gave him the chance to discover the benefits of generous training periods. In eight weeks Keeling reduced his personal best of 4 minutes 24 seconds for the mile by twenty seconds.

That performance, in the Emsley Carr Mile at the White City, earned him his first international vest. Between 1959 and 1965 Peter Keeling was a regular member of British teams in all parts of the world. He reached second place in the European rankings behind Alan Simpson, whom he was coaching. By that time he had left Sheffield to find better competition in Manchester. A year with the *Manchester Evening News* was followed by the decision to freelance so that journalism could be dovetailed with thrice-daily training sessions.

Peter Keeling : six years an athletics international before football took over.

Football resurfaced as a major enthusiasm when Keeling's athletics career ended in 1966. The opportunity to combine the two came with an invitation from Tony Waddington, then manager of Stoke City, to supervise his players' conditioning and fitness training. When Alan Ball senior left Stoke to manage first Halifax Town and then Preston North End, Keeling undertook similar duties at those clubs. He took coaching courses and passed the examination that entitled him to the first FA coaching badge.

A friendship which began when Keeling was a frequent competitor at the White City opened another door. It was his custom to call at Craven Cottage for a massage and there he found common interests with Bobby Robson, who was a Fulham player and a keen follower of athletics. The two men linked up again three years ago when Robson, now manager of Ipswich Town, asked Keeling to help supervise pre-season training at Portman Road, to scout in the north west and to provide assessments of teams and players.

Encouraged by his accumulating experience, Keeling began to apply for managerial posts in the Football League. Often there was no reply. Sometimes he received a duplicated rejection note. The only sign of progress was an occasional personal letter from a chairman wishing him well but regretting that lack of professional experience. etc, etc. Not to have played professionally meant exclusion from a club as tightly-knit as any old boy network.

Norway proved less narrow in its requirements. Peter Keeling's name was not unknown there. Visits to Scandinavia gave him a number of contacts. He writes a weekly column about English football which is syndicated in thirty-five Norwegian newspapers. His links with Ipswich provided an authoritative reference. Just before Christmas, an offer arrived from Tromsö.

Keeling has met his part-time players but not seen them in action. Twenty-four hours of darkness daily and six feet of snow denied him that. But the facilities impressed him. A pitch with under-soil heating and a sports hall which he says matches anything at Everton or Manchester United were evidence of a club determined to make an impression.

The season ahead, though, presents no soft options if Tromsö are to bridge the acknowledged gulf between second and third division football. The northern section of the second division comprises only twelve clubs. The champions are promoted. The runners-up take part in a play-off for a second chance to go up. The bottom three clubs are relegated. In a season that lasts, with a three-week break, from late April to the beginning of October, meaningless matches are virtually unknown.

So what approach does a freelance journalist bring to the task? "A broad outlook", Keeling says. "So much of the job is man-management. Professional footballers leave school in this country at sixteen, join an organization that cossets them and ferries them around. and many of them reach thirty-one or two without knowing what life's about.

"I'm encouraged by the relationship I've built up with the pros I've worked with. Remember, I've had to do the toughest part of training—making them work without the ball. So far, I've always managed to get them on my side. I've had a marvellous response from them all, from internationals downwards."

Peter Keeling has another qualification to add: as manager of an International All-Star team that includes Nobby Stiles, Bobby Charlton, Francis Lee and other illustrious names of the recent past. During the last ten years they have raised some £90.000 for charity. As the long Norwegian nights unfold into endless days we shall see whether all this will be enough to create a permanent vacancy in English press boxes.

**Gerald Sinstadt**

# Shrewsbury cannot make sense of double Dutch

By Stuart Jones

Ipswich 3 Shrewsbury 0

Mick Mills may not care to be reminded but history repeated itself at Portman Road last night. Fourteen years ago, on January 28, Ipswich Town put Shrewsbury Town out of the FA Cup by a score of 4—1. Mills was at full back then and as the only survivor now led his side to a more comfortable life by the banks of the River Orwell than they had endured by the banks of the Severn.

The result was scarcely a surprise. The championship leaders have not lost at home this season, Shrewsbury have not won away. Yet Ipswich needed to dust off Saturday's cobwebs to ensure a place in the fifth round at home to Charlton Athletic. Their opening was predictably frenetic, with interchanges that bewildered a Shrewsbury defence that had looked so secure at Gay Meadow.

Then, Ipswich's strikers had been held as though in a locked room. Now within 10 minutes openings appeared for all three. Wardle saved from Gates and a subdued Mariner, but Brazil, faced with the clearest opportunity, could only head wide. But Shrewsbury's margin of safety was ever-decreasing and McCall, after an intricate exchange on the edge of the area, bruised the left-hand post.

The Dutchman made the difference. In the first meeting their contribution had been almost negligible, but here they had at least one foot, and usually three or four, in Ipswich's preparations. Mills and McCall, in for the injured Burley, pushed up from their deep defensive positions to give them a wide base from which to work.

It was Thijssen who unlocked the door that had been shut for almost two hours. As he doodled on the right in familiar fashion, instead of the expected high and long cross, he fired low towards the near post. Gates met it first time, Wardle allowed it to slip through his grasp and it rolled into the net with Wark as an usher. Wark, though, had to be on his own line minutes later to scramble clear.

The second, five minutes after the interval, was English as a whole but with a trace of Scottish in it. Mariner's superb header found Wark, whose attempt rebounded to Gates. Wardle this time was beyond reproach, so fiercely did Gates strike it and so precise was his aim.

Dungworth, the former Aldershot striker, was finally summoned from the bench with 20 minutes left. At the same time O'Callaghan stepped on as both No 10s went off. Before he had touched the ball, O'Callaghan was fouled by King and Ipswich made Shrewsbury's captain pay for it with the third. Muhren played the free kick short to Gates, who turned swiftly and crossed for Wark to head home.

IPSWICH TOWN: P. Cooper; M. Mills, S. McCall, F. Thijssen, R. Osman, T. Butcher, J. Wark, A. Muhren, P. Mariner, A. Brazil (sub. K. O'Callaghan), E. Gates.
SHREWSBURY TOWN: R. Wardle; J. King, C. Leonard, G. Turner, C. Griffin, J. Keay, D. Tong, I. Atkins, C. Bates, S. Biggins (sub. J. Dungworth), S. Cross.
Referee: C. Downey (Hounslow).

# Parkin settles matters in the final minutes

By Gerald Richmond

Wolverhampton 2 Watford 1

A mundane FA Cup fourth round replay at Molineux last night flared into life during the last thirteen minutes. After Watford had cancelled out Wolverhampton Wanderers' penalty goal, a last minute shot by Derek Parkin was deflected in by Berry, leaving Sherwood unable to change direction.

It was a rare goal for Parkin in his first full appearance since October and, while Wolves move on to a home tie against Wrexham in the fifth round, Watford may consider themselves unfortunate. The fault, though, lay in themselves rather than the stars, for they had more than enough opportunities to have settled the game before half-time.

Watford, perhaps fortunate to survive in the first game, had obviously decided that a positive attitude would serve them well and Jenkins, put away by Train, wasted an early opportunity. Wanderers' defence was far from safe and, when Berry sold his goalkeeper hopelessly short with a pass back, it was fortunate for them that Armstrong was forced to go too wide to be able to shoot effectively.

After Rostron had been cautioned for tripping Daniel, without whose thrusting urgency Wolves would have been extremely toothless, Richards moved smoothly past Jackett and pulled his centre back across the face of the goal. The ball slipped through to Gray, back in action after knee ligament trouble, but he shot into the side netting from a narrow angle. Watford had been the more impressive side in the first half, although they wasted too many chances for their own comfort and, inevitably, Wolves attacked more vigorously after the interval. They felt they might have had a penalty when the ball struck Jackett on the hand.

Jackett's guilty start did not persuade the referee that it was an intentional offence, but, after Blissett and Armstrong had caused problems to Bradshaw, Mr Grey was in no doubt that Sims had fouled Gray as he challenged for Palmer's cross. That, at least, was black-and-white and Gray must have felt that he had been run over by a steamroller. After he had hauled himself to his feet, Richards hit in a firm, low shot.

Poskett replaced Rostron and, within three minutes of his appearance, turned smartly when Rice's centre dropped kindly for him and equalized. With less than eight minutes to go, extra time seemed inevitable but, following a corner, the ball came out to Parkin. His shot was firmly hit, but the change of direction was crucial. There was no time for Watford to recover again and, although they had often played better than Wolves, the Cup has no mercy.

WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS: P. Bradshaw, G. Palmer, M. Hollifield, P. Daniel, J. McAlle, G. Berry, K. Hibbitt, D. Parkin, A. Gray, J. Richards, M. Eves.
WATFORD: S. Sherwood, P. Rice, S. Harrison, L. Taylor, S. Sims, K. Jackett, R. Jenkins, L. Blissett, G. Armstrong, R. Train, W. Rostron (sub. M. Packett).
Referee: A. W. Grey (Great Yarmouth).

Rugby Union

# A match to bring back some stirring memories

By Richard Streeton

The Universities Athletic Union rugby championship will be reduced to the semi-final round after today's programme. What in one sense was an unfortunate draw put all the strongest teams, arguably, in the top half with the winners this afternoon between Exeter and Loughborough playing either Swansea or the University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology. In the bottom half Nottingham are at home to Durham and Bristol face Manchester. The semi-finals on neutral grounds are on February 11 and the final takes place at Twickenham on March 4.

The Exeter-Loughborough clash invokes memories of those stirring matches not so long ago between the physical training teacher colleges from those places. Loughborough, who still pin their faith in the 15-man game, were unbeaten in the UAU championship for four years until losing to UWIST 39—6 in the semi-finals last year. This season they have again had a string of convincing wins in the west Midlands group and in the challenge round beat Newcastle 11—7, a last minute try by Newcastle helping to make the margin of defeat narrower than justified by the game overall.

Loughborough's side includes two strong centres in Steve Grabham, their captain and a Bridgend player, and Adrian Thompson, who has played for Cambridgeshire, and two props, Dillon Davies and Chris Collins, with Welsh county experience. Exeter, runners-up for the past two years, will have nine of last year's Twickenham team playing and are led by Peter Thornley, a former England 19 group flanker, who has played for Notts, Lincs and Derbys. For this level they are a mature side and their successes this winter include 66—3 and 58—3 defeats over Bath and Reading, before a well-equipped Leeds team were beaten 19—10 in the challenge round.

UWIST, the 1976 and 1980 winners, have lost Huw Davies, Tony Swift and Martin Gravelle from last year's gifted back division but still have the nucleus of the same pack, with five survivors, and a sixth, John Marshall, the tighthead, unable to claim a place over Willie John McConnell, a freshman Irish schools player. Injuries deprive them of Justin Robinson, who played stand-off for Newport against the All Blacks, and David Pickering, a Llanelli flanker.

Swansea were beaten 18—10 by UWIST earlier this season in the Welsh divisional group and the basic pattern of that game might be repeated. Swansea claimed two breakaway tries but generally were struggling through a lack of possession. Swansea shared the title with Durham in 1965 and twice reached the final in the 1970s. Their best known current player is Mark Wyatt, an attacking full back and reliable goal kicker, who is a member of the national Welsh training party. He vies at the moment with Roger Blyth as the Swansea club's leading points scorer this season.

Nottingham beat Bradford, Leeds and Sheffield in the east Midlands group and had a comprehensive 37—9 success against Surrey when the challenge round began. With nine of last year's team departed, they have a large quota of freshmen, whose best days lie ahead. David Thomas on the left wing has been in the UAU representative side and Nicholas George on the right wing has played with Otley.

Durham, who were semi-finalists last year, will certainly start favourites, though, because of their strong pack. It includes Peter Lillington, who played No 8 for the junior side in the Scottish national trial earlier this month but who plays at lock for his university. Ellison, the No 8 has played for Yorkshire, and three other forwards have senior club experience.

Bristol have twice lost to Manchester at this stage in the past 20 years and are hoping their luck will change this time. They came through the south-west group despite defeats from Exeter and Reading and went on to beat University College, London, 20—10 in the challenge round. Their most prominent player is John Carr, who has been in Gloucestershire's centre this season.

Manchester, who last won the title in 1949, have their best team for several seasons and beat Warwick 32—15 in the challenge round. They are led by Nick Bennett, a blindside flanker and UAU representative, and also in their pack are a Nigerian, Francis Emeruwe, who is only 18, stands 6ft 2in and a No 8 of great promise, and another youngster Nicholas Wheeler, a 17½ stone tighthead prop, whose scrummaging technique has already been utilized by the Manchester club. The university wings are Keith Hughes, who plays for Sale, and Adrian Leuty, who is Huddersfield's top try scorer; Phil Parker, the scrum-half, has played for Pontypool.

# Luton battle in Commons

Luton Town promised a legal battle against British Rail and Bedfordshire County Council yesterday evening to try to save their ground at Kenilworth Road, their home since 1905. The county council want to build a new main road between Luton and Dunstable. They want land which is used for a railway line carrying freight but no passenger trains

The railway line runs just outside Luton Town's property but they are faced with a compulsory purchase order because British Rail want to move the line.

John Carlisle, the MP for Luton West, struck the first blow for the club in the House of Commons yesterday when he blocked the first stage of a private Bill, promoted by British Rail, which would enable the compulsory purchase order to go through. Luton say they would lose their boardroom; two social clubs, a car park and a community floodlit play area.

# Cannon gives his support as Gradi makes changes

Jim Cannon, the Crystal Palace captain, urged his teammates to back the new manager Dario Gradi, yesterday in the fight for first division survival. Mr Gradi watched his first training session at Palace yesterday, 18 hours after taking over from Malcolm Allison.

On the coaching side, Mr Gradi has moved swiftly. Out go reserve aides, Len Julians and Phil Holder. Ernie Walley and Ken Shellito have been retained and Bristol City's Mike Kelly becomes assistant manager.

Mr Gradi expects to see his unhappy players before the weekend and those insisting on leaving will be released.

It appears Mr Allison was dismissed by Crystal Palace's new chairman, Ron Noades, because they disagreed over the buying and selling of players. Mr Gradi said: "Ron is of the opinion that managers should not be allowed to spend money as they like and to be honest I can't argue with him. Ron will not be deciding who comes and goes but he will be deciding whether he can afford the players I want".

As expected, Mr Noades resigned as chairman of fourth division Wimbledon last night. The Wimbledon board also accepted the resignations of Bernie Coleman, Jimmy Rose and Richard Faulkner, who are to join Mr Noades on the Palace board.

Wimbledon's new chairman is 43-year-old sales executive, Joe McElligott. The board confirmed previous decisions by Mr Noades, that Crystal Palace and Wimbledon would share Selhurst Park for their first team games from next season, providing they receive League permission.

# Hales banned but back in time

Nicky Reid, of Manchester City, was banned for two games by an FA disciplinary commission in London yesterday—but will be available for the League Cup semi-final round, second leg against Liverpool at Anfield on February 10. Even so, Reid, who reached the 20 points limit after his sending off against Middlesbrough 10 days ago, said: "I'm very disappointed at the outcome. It is the first time I've been on 20 points"

Orient's Nigel Gray was also banned for two matches. He had the dubious distinction of being one of the last players to be shown a red card in a League game.

Derek Hales, of Charlton Athletic, received a two-match ban and misses the matches against Plymouth Argyle and Chester as Charlton attempt to stay top of the third division. But he will be available for the fifth round FA cup tie at Ipswich.

# Ministers will boycott opening match

The Irish Government will not be represented at next week's international in Dublin between Ireland and France. It is understood ministers have been instructed not to attend the match on February 7—the opening home fixture of the Irish international season — in protest against the decision of the Irish Rugby Football Union to go ahead with a planned tour to South Africa later this year.

The Irish Government has stressed its opposition to the trip because of South Africa's apartheid policy. The Irish President, Patrick Hillery, has made it clear he will boycott the French game.

Despite repeated assertions by Government ministers of their hostile attitude towards the tour, the Irish Rugby Union has insisted the South African visit should go on. Brian Lenihan, the Foreign Minister and one of the most outspoken critics of the tour, is to be questioned in the Dail about the clash of opinions.

The Irish Anti-Apartheid Movement has promised there will be no demonstrations on the day of the French match. The movement's chairman, Kadar Asmal, said today: "We have no grievance with rugby supporters."

# St Bartholomew's turn the screw

By Gordon Allan

St Bart's 27 Royal Free 3

St Bartholomew's reached the semi-final round of the Hospitals Cup competition when they beat Royal Free by a goal, three penalty goals and three tries to a penalty goal at Dog Kennel Hill, Dulwich, yesterday. They will play either the holders, St Mary's, or King's College, at Richmond on February 18.

Royal Free never had a chance. Their forwards were under too much pressure. St Bartholomew's big pack (St Bartholomew's packs always seem to be bigger than anyone else's in this competition) rolled them back yards at the set scrummages, won many of the lineouts and controlled the rucks. Royal Free sensibly tried to keep the ball away from the forwards and move it around but their opportunities for this were strictly limited. They showed one or two nice touches in midfield in the first and last quarters of the match; in between, the nice touches were all on the other side.

St Bartholomew's scored 21 points in the second half. That illustrates what happened in the first, which they used for the softening-up process. Renfrew kicked a penalty for Royal Free early on. Keeling equalized with another, and just before half-time, St Batholomew's gained the psychological advantage of the lead when the Royal Free centres fell offside in front of their own posts and Appleby made them pay for it. The forwards came to blows once in this half, and the referee felt obliged to speak to the captains, Thomas and Jackson.

Bar the last 10 minutes, St Bartholomew's spent the second half going forward on a broad front. Royal Free could do little but tackle and go on tackling. Middleton went over in the corner for the first try after an orthodox passing movement and Appleby kicked another penalty, again in front of the posts. Royal Free gave away too many penalties. The pressure on them made it inevitable.

Fitzpatrick dropped over for a try when Royal Free were slow to react at a lineout; Goodfellow drove in at the corner and, near the end, Briggs scored between the posts after Adamson and Thomas, among others, had broken out of one of St Bartholomew's rare periods of defence. Keeling converted Briggs's try.

Royal Free deserved a try for their efforts, and Renfrew, Havard (with the best break of the match) and Evans were each in turn not far away in the last few minutes. St Bartholomew's forestalled them. They may have slackened off, but not to the point of charity.

In the other cup match yesterday, Westminster, last year's runners-up, struggled to beat University College 4—0 at Honor Oak Park.

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S: I. Appleby; A. Adamson, R. Evans, P. Keeling, S. Middleton; M. Thomas, D. Ralph; B. Jasper, D. Thompson, J. Beynon, M. Bench, J. Goodfellow, T. Briggs, A. Fitzpatrick, A. Dun.
ROYAL FREE: W. Ribbans; C. Renfrew, J. Jackson, J. Evans, B. Martin; J. Havard, R. Wood-Baker; N. Payne, T. Wistow, P. Tattersall, T. O'Kelly, A. Doble, J. Watkinson, J. Morris, O. Chan.
Referee: A. Titheridge (London).

A lock, Carter, who has won a long battle against injury, will play his first full game of the season for Wasps when they meet Bridgend for the first time at the Brewery Field on Saturday. After defeat in the John Player Cup, against London Scottish—when Carter was a replacement—Wasps drop two of their younger forwards for the trip to Wales. Carter comes in for Harrison and the drop, Huntsman, gives way to Isichei.

*Harlequins expect to have their All Blacks stand-off, Allen, recovered from a knee injury in time for their merit table match against Scottish, the table leaders, at Richmond. He will partner Dyson, who replaces Gilmer, another New Zealander.*

Cycling

# Russians too good, so Britain bans them

By Michael Coleman

A Russian application to enter a team for the Sealink international cycle race in April has been rejected, because they would pedal off with all the prizes. Running away from the Russians, which is what the Sealink ban amounts to, is defeatist and unfitting for a country that is due to stage the world championships next year.

John Burns, Sealink's race director, let it be known last August that he did not want a Soviet team in this year's race (April 13 to 19 from Le Touquet, France, to Manchester) explaining that they were too tough. He pointed to their domination of the Milk Race.

Despite this, the Russians have applied to ride but been rejected. The reply cable from the British Cycling Federation's offices saying there were no places left, but Mr Burns insisting that the Russians would ruin the Sealink race as a spectacle—"the only spectacle the Russians provided in the Milk Race was a red-shirted phalanx at the front every day". Furthermore, their presence would be unfair to the "less fortunate amateurs" without comparable State support.

Which begs the question: what is the Sealink race? For the answer, there is no need to turn farther than to Maurice Cumberworth, the race organizer, who explained why each of its five stages includes a tough climb: "The 1981 Sealink will call for speed, tenacity and all-round bike handling. The man who wins will be one of the best amateur cyclists in the world—he'll have to be." But not good enough to ride against the Russians, it seems.

Jim Hendry, the national director of racing, regards this short, sharp early-season race as admirable preparation for the elite riders he has been carefully grooming for the fortnight-long "Peace" and "Milk" races later in the year and ultimately for the coming world titles and, more importantly, those of next year. There is not a plethora of stage races on British roads.

In all these coming events, the Russians must be met head-on, so why avoid them now? The Colombians in last year's Tour de l'Avenir proved that the Soviet riders are not superhuman and it does our own talented men no favour to assume they are. It is an attitude smacking from the backwater of road racing that Britain used to be.

It so happens that the East Germans are riding Sealink this time—quite a scoop for Mr Burns, for it is a long time since they were here—and their presence alone would have muted the Soviet onslaught, leaving openings for the lesser lights.

The objection to the "professional" Russians hardly stands examination since the margin between the paid rider and the full-time amateur is now barely visible. It is doubtful if any of the French, Belgian or Dutch riders in last year's Sealink race could honestly be described as described as amateur. Michel Larpe, the top Frenhman, for instance, was so well off that it must have broken his heart to turn pro after the Olympics.

It is no secret that top amateurs these days cannot afford to work, the race calendar is so full. There is no shortage of equipment, transport, clothing or even cash for a wanted man prepared to exchange the sunny south for Grimesthorpe. That is common knowledge.

Refusing the Russians at a time when the sport here is gradually getting off its knees is just putting riders back in a cocoon and the sort of attitude that has driven so many up-and-coming roadmen abroad, from Brian Robinson onwards.

Indeed, no fewer than 17 of the men on, or candidates for Mr Hendry's short list will be leaving these shores within the next two weeks in order to live and race on the Continent for the rest of the season against the best.

# Yesterday's results

**FA Cup, fourth round replays**

Ipswich (1) 3 Shrewsbury (0) 0
Gates (2), Wark — 27,153
Winners home to Charlton

Wolves (0) 2 Watford (0) 1
Richards (pen), Parkin — Poskett — 30,854
Winners home to Wrexham

**League Cup**
**Semi-final round, first leg**

Coventry (0) 3 West Ham (2) 2
Thompson (2), Daly — Bonds, Thompson (og) — 35,468

**Third division**

Burnley (1) 1 Portsmouth (1) 3
Hamilton — Tait, Bryant, Hemmerman — 6,623

OTHER MATCHES: Arsenal 1, FC Cologne 0.
WELSH CUP: Wrexham 3, Cardiff City 0.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Southern division: Aylesbury 3, Salisbury 1.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Epsom and Ewell 1, Wembley 1; Kingstonian 0, Farnborough Town 0 (abandoned after 75 min—fog); Maidenhead United 1, Corsham United 4; St Albans City 1, Clapton 0.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Southport 1, Netherfield 2.
RUGBY UNION: Hospitals Cup, second round: St Bartholomew's 27, Royal Free 3; Westminster 4, UCH 0. Other match: Barclays Bank 9, Lloyds Insurance 15. Schools matches: Fettes 10, Edinburgh Borderers 13; Loretto 3, Edinburgh Borderers 14.
RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Oldham 10, Leeds 13.

# Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

FA CUP: Fourth round replays: Bristol City v Carlisle United; Enfield v Barnsley (at Tottenham, 7.45); Exeter City v Leicester City.
FIRST DIVISION: Sunderland v Manchester United.
FOURTH DIVISION: Bradford City v Peterborough United.
SCOTTISH CUP: Third round replays: Clyde v Partick Thistle; Clydebank v East Fife; Cowdenbeath v Arbroath; Dunfermline Athletic v Hibernian; Hearts of Midlothian v Morton; Motherwell v Stenhousemuir.
FA YOUTH CUP: Fourth round: Shrewsbury Town v Leeds United.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Enderby v Stourbridge.
UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Quarter final round: Hull v Leeds; Lancaster v Exeter; Sheffield v Swansea; York v Loughborough.

**Rugby Union**

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: United Banks v Surrey (Nat West, 7.0).
UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Quarter final round: Bristol v Manchester (2.15); Exeter v Loughborough (2.15); Nottingham v Durham (2.30); Swansea v UWIST (2.0).
CLUB MATCHES: Cambridge University v Royal Navy (2.30); Ebbw Vale v Tredegar (7.0); Newport v Cross Keys (7.15); Oxford University v Combined London Old Boys (2.30); Pontypool v Pontypridd (7.0); Rosslyn Park v The Army (7.15).

**Hockey**

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Army v Oxford University (at Aldershot).
LONDON LEAGUE: London University v Richmond; Spencer v Cambridge University.
UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Quarter final round: Exeter v Newcastle; Leeds v Loughborough; Manchester v Durham.
OTHER MATCH: RMA Sandhurst v Southampton University.
WOMEN'S TERRITORIAL MATCH: West v East (at Bristol Imperial, Bristol).

# Fulham changes

Fulham's postponed third division match against Chester has been re-arranged for Craven Cottage on March 24 and the game at Hull, postponed because of FA Cup commitments, will now be on April 7.

Squash rackets

# Briars's form provides compensation

By Rex Bellamy
Squash Rackets Correspondent

As the seedings predicted, Gawain Briars will play Ross Norman in the semi-final round of the British under-23 championship at Wembley tomorrow evening (today is a rest day). In the other match the top seed, Jahangir Khan, will be opposed by his acrobatic elder cousin, Zahir Husain Khan, who beat the fourth and sixth seeds in consecutive rounds.

The impressively sharp form of Briars was compensation for the fact that Stephen Bateman and Ashley Naylor, two of his stablemates at Walton Hall, near Wakefield, were among the losers. Except for a few errors in the first game and a brief loss of momentum in the second, Briars was too severe for Trevor Wilkinson, aged 20.

Wilkinson plays a neat, sensibly-designed game but does not yet have the shots to cause lasting concern to a player of Briars's class. Briars, 6ft 4in tall, had the reach and anticipation to deal with most of Wilkinson's challenges and, for his own part, repeatedly scored with volleyed nicks and otherwise kept the ball low and close to the walls.

In spite of his seeding, Bateman's defeat was no surprise. Husain coaches in Munich and was ill-prepared for serious competition when he arrived in England. But in coming back from two games down to beat Ricki Hill he had gained confidence and assumed a formidable stature that those aware of his talent had always expected. Bateman played well. He had the more punishing shots but repeatedly was denied profit from even the best of them.

Husain hurtled about the court the way bats supposedly emerge from hell. Even when caught on the wrong foot he somehow managed to keep rallies going with lunging gyrations that often took place in corners and threatened to leave him both knotted and concussed. Instead he used the walls as aids to instant recoil, the way boxers and wrestlers use ropes.

The result of all this was that Bateman often had to play one more shot than he could safely manage. Husain's nagging tenacity and consistent ball control squeezed out of him the errors or loose shots sired by frustration. Bateman often cut his margin for error to nothing.

At the end of the first game, and for most of the second, Naylor looked as good a shot-maker as the supple, light-footed Norman. Other than that, the more experienced Norman showed slightly more initiative and skill in finishing the rallies. In the second game Norman saved a game ball with much finesse; whereupon Naylor swiftly lost the game with a brief flood of purposeless shots that suggested his mind had gone into neutral.

Reggie Holmes, who is studying industrial psychology at Pretoria University, thought he had taken time off to play squash. That was the idea anyway. But the psychological effect of his uselessly industrious efforts against Jahangir must have been educational. Holmes had nothing easy to hit except when returning service.

The pressure never relaxed. Jahangir kept the ball low and made it hug the walls. Fast reactions and good wristwork enabled him to vary the pace and pattern of the rallies at will. His drops were mostly the short clingers that hurt an opponents' stomach. The effect of his masking was equally damaging. Poor Holmes never had a chance.

RESULTS: Quarter-final round: Jahangir Khan (Pakistan) beat R. Holmes (SA) 9—1, 9—0, 9—4; Zahir Husain Khan (Pakistan) beat S. Bateman (GB) 10—8, 6—9, 7—9, 9—5; R. Norman (NZ) beat A. Naylor (GB) 9—7, 10—8, 9—3; G. Briars (GB) beat T. Wilkinson (Zimbabwe) 9—?, 10—8, 9—2

# Four players sent off

Four players—Clarkson and Platt (Oldham) and Dickinson and Townend (Leeds)—were sent off in last night's Rugby League first division match at Oldham when a fight broke out after a scrummage in the twelfth minute.

SPORT

Cricket

# Shortage of competitive play is a cause for English concern

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Port of Spain, Jan 27

Encouraged by having beaten the President's XI at Pointe-a-Pierre yesterday, the England cricketers move on later today to St Vincent, where on Friday, they meet Windward Islands, the weakest of the territorial sides, on one of the Caribbean's loveliest grounds. Tomorrow week, also in St Vincent, comes the first of the two one-day internationals.

Neither the Windwards, nor Trinidad, who will provide the opposition in the second of the two first-class matches left before the first Test, have any fast bowling to speak of, which is a pity. Except for Holding, who plays for Jamaica, Croft of Guyana, and Roberts, who is a Leeward Islander, the fast men are concentrated in Barbados, where they are more abundant than they have ever been. Two or three of the Barbadian club sides might, in fact, make a stronger test for England than Windward Islands.

The first victory of the tour was probably more gratifying than significant. Gower, Boycott and Gatting should benefit from having some runs under their belt. It was no coincidence, perhaps, that the batsman who had the hardest struggle was Rose, the only member of the party never to have played some sort before. For him more than anyone else the shortages of competitive play before the Tests, in which to find form and establish a claim, must be worrying.

If Butcher's reception yesterday evening, upon being awarded the fielding prize, is anything to go by, the idea that as a West Indian he will be branded for having opted to play for England is groundless. There is naturally great interest in him out here, as of those there is in Boycott, with whom the crowds and to some extent the local press have a kind of love-hate relationship. They like him for his vast stockpile of runs and are amazed by his patience.

In Barbados last Autumn, when a scratch English side—though by no means a bad one—met some good club opposition, the most successful English bowler was Don Wilson (now head coach at Lord's), who was also the slowest. The theory was that the more time you give a West Indian batsman to make a mistake the likelier he is to make one. In other words, that he can play medium pace until the cows come home but is more likely to be baffled by flight and spin. Mr Walker, the Australian, and Bruce Taylor, of New Zealand, are remembered, it is true, for having been notably successful out here at medium pace, but they were both very tall and Walker was wonderfully accurate.

In the match at Pointe-a-Pierre the England spinners were the deciding factor, not simply because the ball turned. Dilley, Old and Botham all went nicely off the bat, whereas Miller, as soon as he came on, had the batsmen in two minds. It was bowling, remember, that Greig won the last Test match of the 1973-74 tour. In Emburey, England should have the best spinner on either side and when it comes to choosing the fifth bowler, it might be as well to go for the additional off breaks of Miller or Willey, both of whom can bat, rather than for someone faster.

On the evidence of one game Botham is still the bowler he was in England last summer rather than in India and Australia before that. I hope this is wrong, but the great spring he was said to have recovered was not in evidence against the President's XI for him though, like everyone else, these are early days. What matters on these pitches for anyone without the sheer speed of some of the West Indians against the best batsmen are line, length and perseverance, supplemented by good catching.

These are the things to be drummed into the bowlers before the first Test match starts on Friday, February 13 and which can be worked at in practice. To me it was a surprising decision to give yesterday's side the day off today, when fitness is of such importance and every catch taken, even on the Fatima College ground, makes judging the next one slightly less difficult.

ENGLAND XI: First Innings, 435 for 6 dec ([illegible]).
Second Innings, 206 for 5 dec ([illegible]).
PRESIDENT'S YOUNG WEST INDIES XI: First Innings, [illegible]
Second Innings [illegible]
Total ... 181
BOWLING: [illegible]
England won by 190 runs.

# Victory is dashed from Australian lips

From Dilip Rao
Adelaide, Jan 27

Only the last two Indian wickets stood between Australia and a victory in the second Test, which would have given them a winning lead in the three-Test series. Australia, who had given themselves a shade under 4½ hours to bowl India out on a slow pitch, were frustrated by the ninth-wicket pair of Karsan Ghavri and Shivlal Yadav.

They had come together halfway through the tenth over of the 20 that had to be bowled in the last hour and they accomplished their nerve-racking task with little bother. India would not have been so pressed to survive had some of the earlier batsmen shown as much character and application.

In the morning, Australia, who held an aggregate lead of 274, with six second-innings wickets in hand, could not score as quickly as they would have liked and their declaration had to wait until 35 minutes before lunch, when they had increased the leeway by only another 56 runs.

But Australia had not bowled more than 10 overs before they had the scent of victory in their nostrils, with the half-fit Len Pascoe making a great effort and claiming the first three wickets. Taking a rousing slip catch, Chappell collaborated in the dismissal of Gavaskar in his first over.

The ball that got Gavaskar was an exceptionally good one but Chauhan, Pascoe's next victim, courted disaster by addressing a more innocent one from a distance.

Viswanath sparkled in the first over after lunch, striking three spectacular off-side fours off Lillee, but left a chink in his defence against Pascoe and was bowled soon after.

Lillee then contributed to the havoc by removing Patil, India's saviour in the first innings. When this fourth blow fell, India's innings was not quite an hour old and another 31 remained to be negotiated. Resistance was at last forthcoming in the form of a partnership between Vengsarkar and Yashpal Sharma, who is not a player of great accomplishment, but a very resolute one.

Sharma was not embarrassed to stay scoreless for 36 minutes and then wait another hour before making his next aggressive gesture. Lillee and Pascoe had done their bit but Hogg, having bowled only three overs, was still fresh. Chappell, however, banked on spin to break down the barrier formed by Vengsarkar and Sharma.

Border, not a regular practitioner of orthodox left-arm spin, made the breakthrough, dismissing Vengsarkar, who had batted 126 minutes for the top score of 37. Although caught at slip, Vengsarkar waited at the crease and showed dissent at the verdict. If he had not played the ball, the deflection could only have come from the toecap of his boot.

Sharma, who batted for 169 minutes before falling l-b-w to Yardley, and Kirmani, a victim of Chappell's leg-spin, carried the fight well into the last hour, when Ghavri and Yadav took charge of India's fate.

An argument that will rage for long is whether Chappell could have caused Australia to miss the bus by not subjecting Ghavri and Yadav to a greater measure of pace, which was used for only two overs during the last hour, the 16th and the very last.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings 528 (K. J. Hughes 213, G. M. Wood 125).
Second Innings [illegible]
INDIA: First Innings 419 (S. M. Patil 174, C. P. S. Chauhan 97).
Second Innings [illegible]
Kapil Dev, c Marsh, b Lillee ... 7
S. M. Kirmani, c Marsh, b Chappell ... 14
K. D. Ghavri, not out ... 7
Shivlal Yadav, not out ... 0
Extras (b 7, l-b 1, n-b 8) ... 16
Total (8 wkts) ... 135
D. R. Doshi did not bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1—13, 2—16, 3—44, 4—57, 5—90, 6—103, 7—136, 8—128.
BOWLING: Lillee 19—7—38—2; Pascoe 11—2—32—3; Border 9—5—9—1; Chappell 9—6—4—1; Yardley 24—13—25—1; Hogg 3—0—11—0.

Boxing

# Conteh joins the old Colonels' Brigade

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

John Conteh plans to return to the ring some time at the end of March to meet Carlos de Leon, of Puerto Rico, for the new cruiserweight division world title. The bout will be put on at Liverpool by Don King, of the United States, and Charlie Atkinson, of Liverpool, the date depending on a United States television tie-up.

This will be Conteh's first outing in the 13st 8lb division into which he moved after his last ring appearance at Liverpool in May. The division is something of an Old Colonels' Brigade, but de Leon can still get about a bit, being a substitute in years. So Conteh will have to look lively and George Francis, his trainer, thinks that two months should be enough to get him into top shape.

Ken Buchanan, who set off on Monday night to see what the world he once ruled as a lightweight had to offer him, found himself on a narrow, viewless road when he was beaten on points in a final light-welterweight title eliminator by Steve Early, of Coventry, at the Tower Ballroom in Birmingham.

Even so, the tireless Scot had decided to soldier on. He would like a return with Early if the Midlander lifts Clinton McKenzie's title. The bout was close, scored 118–117 by Harry Gibbs, which meant that there was only one round in it, with seven even. I do not think that Buchanan will be able to improve on that if the two meet again. At 35 it is too late for the Scot to learn new tricks and he would have to produce something different to beat Early, who except in two rounds never looked in danger of defeat. Buchanan's best punch was thrown in the 8th round when a right followed through wobbled Early but the Midlander buckled the Scot's knees more than once.

The Scot was given a louder ovation than the Midland hero at the end of the 12 rounds—because he refused to bow to a younger man in a close bout.

Though taking a severe pounding in the early rounds, he always remained in touch.

Golf

# Open returns to St Andrews after six years

The open championship returns to St Andrews, the headquarters of the game, in 1984 after a six-year interval. Jack Nicklaus of America has won the title over the Old Course on the last two occasions it has been played there, in 1970 and 1978.

Final qualifying competitions for the 1984 Open, on July 19-22, will be played at Ladybank, Leven and Lundin on July 15 and 16 with regional qualifying at six venues the previous Monday.

The 1984 Amateur championship, from June 4-9, is back at Formby where, in 1967, Bob Dickson beat another American Walker Cup international, Ron Cerrudo, in one of the most memorable finals on record.

OTHER DATES: May: 30-31, St Andrews Trophy, Saunton. August: 8-10: Seniors championship, Western Gailes and Glasgow; 10-17, boys internationals and championship, Royal Porthcawl; 22-25, youths international and championship, Blairgowrie.

Racing

# Lord Gulliver travels on to Aintree

By Michael Seely

Lord Gulliver continued Jenny Pitman's remarkable run of success when toying with his opponents in the Ollerton Handicap Steeplechase at Nottingham yesterday. Mrs Pitman's tally of 25 victories this season is the highest by a woman trainer in this country. And judged by the confident way in which Philip Blacker rode Lord Gulliver, yesterday's winner is one to follow in his immediate engagements.

Lord Gulliver, Artistic Prince and Bueche Giorod are Mrs Pitman's three entries for the Grand National, the weights for which are published today. All going well in the meantime, the first two are certain runners at Liverpool. Lord Gulliver was having only his second outing since being fired 13 months ago. "I thought he would win today", the trainer said, "but Lord Gulliver just needed the race and should improve a bit yet. If I had my way he would miss Aintree this year but his owner Mr Callander is determined to have a go."

Peter Callander's point of view is perfectly understandable. "It's all very well talking about the future but as far as most chasers are concerned there is no next year." Considering the hordes of lame horses who are eating their heads off and breaking their owners hearts as well there is a deal of truth in this remark.

Bueche Giorod, on the other hand, would only be aimed at the National if this much improved chaser is allotted too much weight in the Topham Trophy at the same meeting. The 10-year-old will be seeking his sixth victory of the season in the Tote Jackpot Steeplechase at Cheltenham on Saturday.

On the whole the bookmakers had the better of thee exchanges, the only outright favourite to succeed being Alan Jarvis's Danhagen, on whom Tommy Carmody rode a sympathetic race to win the Carlton Handicap Hurdle. Danhagen showed plenty of ability on the flat in France where he was trained by Aage Paus, but sometimes refused to go through with his finishing effort.

A course of hurdling has worked wonders with Danhagen who has now won four of his five starts under winter rules. "Either the Panama Cigar Hurdle final at Chepstow or the Waterford Crystal Novices Hurdle at Cheltenham will be Danhagen's main objective", Jarvis said.

Shot in the dark for punters: Irish Rifle, starting at 20-1, wins the Stop Gap Hurdle.

The biggest surprise of the day came in the first division of the Stop Gap Hurdle for four-year-olds. The most fancied contenders were the Daily Express Triumph Hurdle candidate, Toondra, and Franciscus. Toondra spoilt his chances with some indifferent hurdling and David Nicholson's expensive purchase never appeared likely to get to grips. However, it was only by a short head that Franciscus failed to catch Irish Rifle.

Despite his starting price of 20-1 Irish Rifle was far from friendless in the market. My eardrums were nearly pierced by the frenzied cheers of a press colleague who had had the foresight to place £5 on Ray Laing's four-year-old at 100-1. Laing is on holiday in Tenerife but a stable spokesman said that Irish Rifle would now go for the big race at Cheltenham for which Toondra's stable companion, Broadsword remains a firm favourite at 7-2.

There is a feast of racing in store on Saturday. Little Owl and Henry Kissinger are possible starters for the Tote Double Steeplechase at Cheltenham. The sponsors have made Pongee Boy their favourite at 6-1 for the William Hill Yorkshire Handicap at Doncaster where the prospective meeting between Night Nurse, Rathgorman, Beacon Light and Gambling Prince also promises to provide some fireworks. Rathgorman's trainer, Michael Dickinson, said yesterday that Wayward Lad was to tackle those talented Irish novices, Royal Dipper and Mr Kidd in the West of Scotland Pattern Steeplechase at Ayr.

At Newcastle today Dickinson can land a double by winning the Teal Novices Steeplechase with Waite and the second division of the Moorhen Novices Hurdle with Liquidate. Waite was a useful staying hurdler until he broke down two seasons ago and showed enough promise on his recent first appearance over fences at Kelso to suggest that he is worth support.

Liquidate showed plenty of ability on the Flat when trained by Gavin Pritchard-Gordon and shaped well behind his stable companion, Happy Hector at Catterick Bridge. Cornering is the one that Liquidate may have to overcome.

STATE OF GOING (official): Wolverhampton: chase course, good to soft, hurdle course, soft. Newcastle: heavy. Tomorrow: Huntingdon: good. Taunton: good to soft.

## Newcastle programme

1.30 MOORHEN HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £968: 2m 120yd)
1 100040 Deep Ice, W. A. Stephenson, 8-11-13 ... R. Lamb
2 301 Wink the Cop, M. H. Easterby, 5-11-12 ... Mr Easterby
4 0-0 Easy Music, V. Thompson, 7-11-8 ... Mr J. Walton
5 2222 Leading Lady, R. Hobson, 6-11-8 ... D. Shaw 7
6 Mr Shugs, A. Oliver, 6-11-8 ... T. G. Dun
7 03- Timothea, T. Craig, 6-11-8 ... J. Mooney 4
8 0 Vulton, Miss Z. Green, 6-11-8 ... C. Brownless
11 0000 Green Menelek, B. Wilkinson, 5-11-7 ... D. Atkins
13 0 Keep Trying, W. A. Stephenson, 5-11-7 ... I. Grant 7
15 40200 Menalist, R. Dods, 5-11-7 ... A. Stringer 7
16 0 Regal Roots, W. A. Stephenson, 5-11-7 ... T. G. Davies 7
17 432 Ribonny, W. Elsey, 5-11-7 ... A. Flint
19 Safle, P. Burke, 5-11-7 ... Mr G. Williams 7
20 0000 Silent Reactor, G. Fairbairn, 5-11-7
22 0 Tilnextime, K. Stone, 5-11-7 ... C. Tinkler
24 0101 Mr Snugfit (CD), M. W. Easterby, 4-11-5 ... Mr T. Dun
11-4 Wink the Cop, 3-1 Mr Snugfit, 4-1 Leading Lady, 9-2 Ribonny, 6-1 Deep Ice, 16-1 Menalist, 20-1 others.

2.0 SWAN CHASE (Handicap: £1,644: 2m 120yd)
1 303213 Starlight Lad (CD), R. Bethell, 7-11-10 ... C. Grant
2 214123 Robbie's Park, K. Oliver, 7-11-9 ... T. V. O'Connell 4
3 0/f000e Indian Emperor (C), F. Walton, 11-11-8 ... Mr J. Walton
4 0p0021 Border Brig (C), R. Brewis, 10-11-8 ... C. Pimlott
7-4 Border Brig, 15-8 Starlight Lad, 5-2 Robbie's Park, 16-1 Indian Emperor.

2.30 TEAL CHASE (Novices: £1,344: 3m)
2 01-0f31 Be Free (CD), M. Camacho, 6-12-0 ... D. Oldham 4
3 3/4- Church Moose, A. Mactaggart, 9-11-7 ... R. Barry
4 p Count Vronsky, B. McLean, 8-11-7 ... S. Charlton
6 0p0fp0 Ellen Louise, T. Robson, 8-11-7 ... Miss R. Lock
7 0000/pp Fanshawe Fabiola, Mrs J. Cundall, 8-11-7 ... Mr C. Cundall 4
8 300p22 Highway Dual, C. Bell, 6-11-7
10 2ff4fp Pops Girl, K. Oliver, 8-11-7 ... T. V. O'Connell 4
11 0-00320 Run'n Fly, A. Mactaggart, 6-11-7 ... G. Bradley 7
12 03-p304 The Heenan Kid, W. A. Stephenson, 8-11-7 ... R. Lamb
13 10141/3 Waite, M. Dickinson, 11-11-7 ... T. Carmody
15-8 Waite, 9-4 Be Free, 4-1 Highway Dual, 8-1 Run'n Fly, 10-1 The Heenan Kid, 12-1 Church Moose, 14-1 others.

3.0 CRESTED GREBE HURDLE (£1,956: 3m)
1 f00000 Gold Invader (C), A. Scott, 8-12-1 ... R. Lamb
3 004100 Norton Cavalier (C), M. H. Easterby, 6-12-1 ... A. Brown
4 f0003/p Silkstone (B), Mrs P. Saville, 13-12-1 ... C. Tinkler
5 02143 Andy's Gift (C), Denys Smith, 6-11-11 ... C. Grant
6 031412 Fogbound (D), P. Curtis, 10-11-11 ... D. Wilkinson 4
7 0200-0f Regency Wood, T. Craig, 6-11-11 ... J. Mooney 4
10 421000 Glendyne (D), J. Kettlewell, 8-11-7 ... S. Kettlewell 7
1-2 Norton Cavalier, 11-2 Fogbound, 6-1 Andy's Gift, 16-1 Glendyne, 20-1 Regency Wood, 25-1 others.

3.30 COOT CHASE (Handicap: £1,813: 2½m)
5 104121 Fortina's Express (D), W. A. Stephenson, 7-11-8 ... R. Lamb
6 112231 King Vulture (CD), G. Richards, 8-10-13 ... R. Barry
7 102231 Impus (D), R. Robinson, 8-10-12 ... C. Pimlott
10 004020 Ingham (D), S. Nesbitt, 9-10-0 ... D. Atkins
14 0-ppp02 Caxton Hall (CD), V. Thompson, 10-10-0 ... C. Grant
13-8 King Vulture, 9-4 Fortina's Express, 7-2 Impus, 8-1 Ingham, 16-1 Caxton Hall.

4.0 MOORHEN HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £937: 2m 120yd)
2 000/0 Baragoin, J. Calvert, 6-11-8 ... C. Grant
3 0 Bellaport, R. Hobson, 5-11-8 ... D. Shaw 7
4 000000/ Chad Park, W. Harrison, 8-11-8 ... R. Cockburn 7
8 0-00000 Sandicliffe, V. Thompson, 6-11-8 ... Mr J. Walton
11 003-0 Cornering, M. H. Easterby, 5-11-7 ... Mr T. Easterby
13 0 Liquidate, M. Dickinson, 5-11-7 ... T. Carmody
14 0ppf-0 Upshot, J. Charlton, 5-11-7 ... Mr D. Kinsella
20 Kelton Lass, Miss Z. Green, 4-10-7 ... C. Brownless
4-6 Cornering, 6-4 Liquidate, 12-1 Sandicliffe, 25-1 others.

## Wolverhampton programme

1.45 BESCOT CHASE (Div I: Novices: £960: 2m)
2 01-10uf Army Lad (D), F. Rimell, 7-11-7 ... S. Morshead
4 0-0010f Polar Express (CD), D. Nicholson, 6-11-7 ... P. Scudamore
7 10300/0 Et Tu, K. Morgan, 9-11-0 ... A. Webb
10 41/fb0 Grey Cobweb, J. Edwards, 8-11-0 ... P. Blacker
11 006/00 Kindled Spirit, W. Mann, 6-11-0 ... P. Carvill 4
13 0p Paparaid, P. Bevan, 7-11-0 ... C. Smith
14 00400f Reservist, J. Spearing, 9-11-0 ... C. Candy
15 f000-0p Sir Owen, R. Peacock, 9-11-0 ... S. O'Neill
16 0000-p Sister Buskins, R. Armytage, 8-11-0 ... A. Webber
17 0p-0050 Straight Cash, Mrs W. Sykes, 8-11-0 ... Mr A. Wilson
18 34p032 Twilight Stag, W. Jenks, 7-11-0 ... R. Davies
20 33a Velvetstown, V. Bishop, 7-11-0 ... Mr C. Crozier
21 0422u4 Woodland Glen, O. O'Neill, 6-11-0 ... J. Suthern
9-4 Polar Express, 11-4 Army Lad, 4-1 Twilight Stag, 6-1 Velvetstown, 8-1 Woodland Glen, 12-1 Grey Cobweb, 20-1 others.

2.15 BESCOT CHASE (Div II: Novices: £960: 2m)
202 0-0f112 Beechey Bank, R. Turnell, 7-11-7 ... A. Turnell
204 upf402 Ballet Master, A. W. Jones, 8-11-0 ... T. Andrews 4
205 0 Ballywell, M. Oliver, 6-11-0 ... P. Hobbs
206 0040-4p Camping Site, F. Yardley, 8-11-0 ... W. Morris 4
209 022220 Jo Colombo, W. Jenks, 6-11-0 ... R. Davies
210 u-4f032 King Vince, F. Rimell, 7-11-0 ... S. Morshead
212 04b00p Orx, T. Bill, 9-11-0
213 4-f0n24 Prince Andrei, I. Dudgeon, 7-11-0 ... R. Linley
219 000400 Chachilli, J. Bissill, 5-10-4 ... R. Crank
7-4 Beechey Bank, 9-4 King Vince, 4-1 Ballet Master, 8-1 Prince Andrei, 10-1 Jo Colombo, 12-1 Ballywell, 20-1 others.

2.45 CEMENT CITY CHASE (Handicap: £1,521: 3½m)
301 41111-4 Cador's Daughter (D), Miss S. Griffiths, 10-11-10 ... Mr N. Oliver 7
302 341211 Benghazi Express (CD, B), Mrs J. Pitman, 7-11-2 ... B. Smart
305 00271u Bridge Ash (C), J. Johnson, 8-10-9 ... P. Scudamore
310 402013 Choral Festival (C), M. Low, 10-10-4 ... Mr N. Low 7
312 31nn-2f Princely Call, Mrs G. Jones, 7-10-0 ... J. Burke
315 0-p0300 Son And Heir (B), I. Edwards, 11-10-0 ... F. Warren
15-8 Benghazi Express, 9-4 Cador's Daughter, 4-1 Bridge Ash, 8-1 Choral Festival, 10-1 Princely Call, 12-1 Son And Heir.

3.15 HAIG WHISKY HURDLE (Qualifier: Novices: £1,149: 2m)
403 00-0014 Sea Cargo (CD), J. Johnson, 6-11-5 ... J. Suthern
405 01 Pre-Eminence, D. Garraton, 5-11-4 ... P. Charlton
406 122 Roadster, P. Bailey, 8-11-1 ... A. Webber
407 f Asdic, D. Kent, 6-11-0 ... P. Haynes
410 3 Cosmic Occasion, M. Reid, 6-11-0 ... P. Carvill 4
411 ffp0- Distaclota, Miss S. Griffiths, 7-11-0 ... Mr M. Oliver 7
413 0a0240 Farnshaw, Miss B. Sykes, 6-11-0 ... S. Smith Eccles
415 Gallinazo, D. Nicholson, 6-11-0 ... P. Scudamore
419 ff-pppf Master Dealer, C. Jackson, 7-11-0 ... R. Crank
420 042-00f O'Down, B. Cambidge, 7-11-0 ... Mr J. Cambidge 4
425 00 Amberwell, P. Bevan, 5-10-10 ... Mr R. Wooley
429 Cara Bid, E. Barlow, 5-10-10 ... Mr R. Wooley
430 0f40 Cashed In, A. Jarvis, 5-10-10 ... B. R. Davies
432 000 Coney Glen, V. Bishop, 5-10-10 ... Mr C. Crozier
434 Fair Arthur, W. Jenks, 5-10-10 ... R. F. Davies
436 Feodora, Miss B. Sykes, 5-10-10 ... N. Breeze 7
442 000 Mifanfield, M. Oliver, 5-10-10 ... P. Hobbs
444 0-000 Oxford Lane, P. Bailey, 5-10-10 ... Mr P. Webber
445 Rugby Royal, J. Czerpak, 5-10-10 ... M. Worthington 7
446 000 The Womper, F. Rimell, 5-10-10 ... Mr E. Woods
5-2 Roadster, 3-1 Pre-Eminence, 4-1 Cosmic Occasion, 9-2 Sea Cargo, 10-1 Asdic, 12-1 The Womper, Gallinazo, 20-1 others.

3.45 GORSEBROOK HURDLE (Handicap: £1,019: 2m)
502 20-0000 Wait And See (CD, B), F. Rimell, 6-11-4 ... Mr E. Woods
503 0-00333 Whisky Go Go (D), R. Morris, 5-10-13 ... E. Morris
504 00-0110 Kilroy Manor (CD), R. Fisher, 5-10-8 ... D. Goulding
505 1-00010 Entebbe (D), F. Yardley, 6-10-8 ... P. Scudamore
506 010-3 Newry Hill (D), Mrs W. Sykes, 8-10-7 ... S. Morshead
507 401-000 Channel Lane (D), T. Barron, 7-10-7 ... N. Balmer
510 100220 William The First (D), A. W. Jones, 6-10-0 ... S. Keightley 7
511 000202 Lough Street (D), M. Oliver, 8-10-0 ... S. Devaney 7
513 403110 Mandy's Time (CD), J. Harris, 8-10-0 ... J. Harris 7
514 43410-0 Free Drop, D. Oseman, 6-10-0 ... C. Smith
515 1u3030/ High Tide (D), G. H. Price, 7-10-0 ... Mr M. Low 7
517 40-0034 Miller's Court, G. H. Price, 5-10-0 ... Colin Price 4
518 0/10-000 Richard Granville (D, B), W. Clay, 10-10-0 ... M. Elliott 7
519 00004 Oriental Prince, M. Ryan, 7-10-0 ... J. McLaughlin 4
521 10-0332 Very Friendly (D), A. Birch, 5-10-0 ... T. Wall 7
522 40410/0- Ragloth, M. Oliver, 6-10-0 ... P. Hobbs
524 0303-00 Partou Belle (D), D. White, 5-10-0 ... R. Hyett
11-4 Kilroy Manor, 7-2 Entebbe, 9-2 Newry Hill, 4-1 Lough Street, 8-1 Whisky Go Go, 10-1 Channel Lane, 12-1 William The First, Mandy's Time, 20-1 others.

4.15 BRIDGNORTH HURDLE (4-y-o novices: £690: 2m)
601 13p00 Davidgalaxy Affair (D), F. Yardley, 11-5 ... W. Morris 4
602 41 Imperium (D), J. Old, 11-5 ... S. May
604 Caliscutter, A. W. Jones, 10-7 ... Miss D. Jones 7
610 3 Fred Pilliner, M. Scudamore, 10-7 ... P. Scudamore
611 22320 Generous Bid, S. Wright, 10-7 ... S. Smith Eccles
614 2 Jade's Double, Mrs B. Waring, 10-7 ... S. Keightley 7
616 03 Ladyswood, K. Bridgwater, 10-7
620 Masterplan, Mrs W. Sykes, 10-7 ... S. Morshead
623 Prince Brookes, N. Brookes, 10-7 ... Mr N. Brookes
624 00 Ratner Easy, N. Henderson, 10-7 ... J. Nolan
626 20 Sariffo, A. Barrow, 10-7 ... P. Hobbs
627 0 Scrambled, W. Francis, 10-7 ... R. Crank
629 030 Shoofront, J. Cann, 10-7 ... S. G. [illegible]
631 4 Skinflint, J. Edwards, 10-7 ... P. [illegible]
632 4 Strathdearn, W. Francis, 10-7 ... A. K. Taylor
633 23 The Britisher, A. Jarvis, 10-7 ... B. R. Davies
634 00 The Hood, F. Yardley, 10-7
4-5 Imperium, 6-1 Skinflint, 8-1 The Britisher, 10-1 Fred Pilliner, Strathdearn, 12-1 Jade's Double, Ladyswood, 20-1 others.
* Doubtful runner

## Newcastle selections

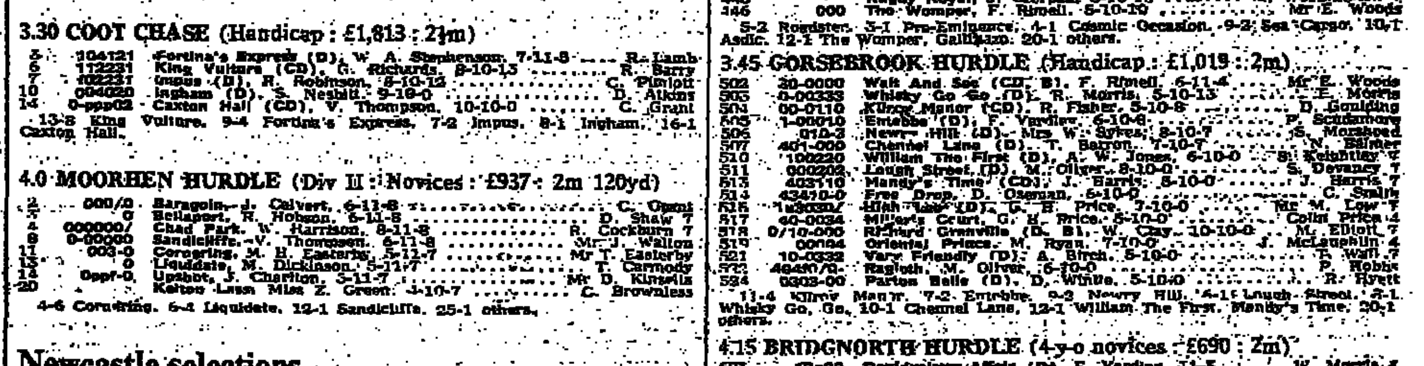
By Michael Seely

1.30 Mr Snugfit. 2.0 Border Brig. 2.30 Waite is SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED. 3.0 Norton Cavalier. 3.30 King Vulture. 4.0 Liquidate.

## Wolverhampton selections

By Michael Seely

1.45 Army Lad. 2.15 Beechey Bank. 2.45 Benghazi Express. 3.15 Roadster. 3.45 Whisky Go Go. 4.15 Imperium.



## Nottingham results

1.0 (1.2) STOP GAP HURDLE (Div I: 4-y-o: £485: 2m)
IRISH RIFLE, b c, by Scottish Rifle—Sunsally (Mrs A. Giacobbi), 10-10 ... A. Mooney (20-1) 1
Franciscus ... J. Francome (6-5 fav) 2
Handstone ... P. Burgoyne (50-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £2.97; places, 78p, 10p, 57p. Dual F: £6.76. CSF: £1.13. D. Laing, at Newbury. Sh hd, 6l. Saldatore (33-1) 4th. 17 ran. NR: Little Bog.

1.30 (1.31) BONNINGTON CHASE (Handicap: £1,200: 2m)
PRINCE KUMAR VI, ch g, by Silver Kumar—Princess Cacador (G. Bourne), 9-9-12 ... W. Morris (14-1) 1
Major Thompson ... Mr T. Thomson Jones (4-5 fav) 2
Hazy Isles ... Mr P. Webber (7-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £2.78; Dual F: 73p. CSF: £2.46. F. Yardley, at Droitwich. 7l, 12l. Marsholstown (33-1) 4th. 5 ran.

2.0 (2.2) CARLTON HURDLE (Handicap: £1,026: 2m)
DANHAGEN, ch h, by Mount Hagen—Audrey Joan (J. Marshall), 5-11-5 ... T. Carmody (100-30 fav) 1
Lesslue ... B. Reilly (7-2) 2
Sallys Carouselle ... T. Wall (11-2) 3
TOTE: Win, 71p; places, 12p, 16p, 19p. Dual F: 96p. CSF: £1.59. A. Jarvis, at Royston. 1l, 8l. Solidor (33-1) 4th. 12 ran.

2.30 (2.31) OLLERTON HANDICAP CHASE (£1,379: 3m)
LORD GULLIVER, br g, by Vulgan—Aran Jacket (P. Callander), 8-12-0 ... P. Blacker (5-2) 1
Railway Line ... Mr P. Webber (12-1) 2
Devon Mignon ... C. Grant (10-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 36p; places, 22p, 87p. Dual F: £1.06. CSF: £5.32. Mrs J. Pitman, at Upper Lambourn. 8l, 2l. Sea Emperor 7-4 fav, 4th. 7 ran.

3.0 (3.1) ELVASTON CHASE (Novices: £960: 2m)
STACCATO, b g, by Birdbrook—Key of Laughter (C. Barratt), 8-11-4 ... B. R. Davies (6-1) 1
Pewter Spear ... W. Beardwood (5-1) 2
Mister Oats ... P. Haynes (8-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 65p; places, 21p, 18p, 24p. Dual F: £1.50. CSF: £5.24. D. Morley, at Bury St Edmunds. 4l, 2l. Majestic Bay 7-2 fav; Pacemen (9-2) 4th. 13 ran. NR: Glossed Over.

3.30 (3.32) STOP GAP HURDLE (Div II: 4-y-o: £485: 2m)
MR PRESIDENT WEAR, b c, by Welsh Saint—Rose Amber (Mr President Ltd), 10-10 ... P. Haynes (20-1) 1
Dutch Challenger ... B. R. Davies (11-4) 2
Harford ... P. Scudamore (5-2 fav) 3
TOTE: Win, £1.70; places, 42p, 21p, 12p. Dual F: £2.68. CSF: £7.78. D. Kent, at Chichester. 1l, 3l. Chuck's Sons (3-1) 4th.

JACKPOT: Not won; pool of £340 carried forward to Wolverhampton today. PLACEPOT: £542.15.

Snooker

# Davis meets Mans for first time, and regrets it

By Sydney Friskin

The Masters snooker championship, sponsored by Benson and Hedges, began at the Wembley Conference Centre last evening with a shock result when the favourite, Steve Davis, lost to Perrie Mans, of South Africa, by five frames to three. The left-handed Mans, the winner of this title in 1979, will now meet the world champion Cliff Thorburn in the quarter-final round.

After two years in the doldrums, Mans, who now promotes snooker in South Africa, at last made a breakthrough and said after the match that his victory had given him confidence. He blamed the press for giving Davis too big a build up, adding that it had put too much pressure on him. Mans had arrived in London only on Sunday but had practised assiduously. It was the first time that he had met Davis in a tournament.

There is a well-known sporting axiom that one can play only as well as one is allowed to, and that is what happened to Davis. Mans won a shrewd tactical battle, never permitting Davis the fluency that won him the United Kingdom championship at Preston. The South African played some great shots, particularly from long range, and when he missed he usually left few openings, often depositing the cue ball far away from the cluster of reds or up against a cushion.

It was a struggling Davis that we saw, let loose from his fetters only in the third frame, when he made a brilliant clearance break of 91. There was also a fighting break of 54 in the seventh frame when Davis came back from the jaws of defeat to clear the table.

There were other tense moments in the match even before it went to two frames all at the interval. Mans, who seemed out of touch in the first frame, played so consistently in the second that Davis eventually conceded it. Then, after Davis had won the third frame comfortably, he looked certain to run away with the fourth with a break of 43 which ended on a foul stroke.

But Mans kept a cool head and fought back. He won a grim tussle for the last red, got to work on the colours to leave Davis needing the last three colours to win. He potted the blue easily enough, doubled the pink but it was Mans who potted the black to level at two frames all.

Mans, against expectations, won the next two frames after the interval and Davis knew that he had to win the next three to survive. When he won the seventh he looked as if he might recover but with Mans leading 56—19 in the eighth, his case was hopeless. When the cue ball disappeared into a pocket it was finally lost. Davis had no excuses. "I enjoyed the game," he said, "but not the way I played."

FIRST ROUND: P. Mans (SA) beat S. Davis (England) 5—3 (Mans first): 26—106, 82—14, 12—110, 73—60, 76—28, 31—42, 59—64, 65—25.

Motor rallying

# Mikkola hits bridge and plunges down standings

Monte aCrlo, Jan 27.—The Monte Carlo jinx which has often thwarted Hannu Mikkola's hopes of winning the world's most famous rally struck again this morning when he crashed off the road in his works Audi quattro turbo. The Finn, winner of nearly every honour rallying can offer, had dominated the early stages of the event in his four-wheel-drive car.

He arrived in the Principality yesterday after the classification run, holding a huge lead of nearly six minutes. In the early hours of this morning he was still a comfortable four minutes and a half clear of his rivals.

But on the icy 13-mile Roustans Pass road—fifth special stage of the 18-stage common run—Mikkola's car spun and slammed into a bridge.

The Scandinavian driver was able to complete the stage but he plunged down the overall standings to ninth place and was nearly eight minutes behind the French crew of Jean-Luc Therier and Michel Vial in a Porsche, who moved into the lead.

Meanwhile the West German firm's mechanics worked furiously to repair the car's smashed front left wheel and suspension and Mikkola tried to make up time in the road section to the sixth special stage, Fayolle Pass, in the rugged Ardeche region.

It is not the first time that Mikkola has been denied what appeared to be certain victory at Monte Carlo. He finished fourth in 1973, was runner-up in 1975 and fifth in 1979 after being controversially downgraded from first place for a road-rules infringement.

This year he had taken command of the competition and made all of the early running before his crash which the gentle-spoken Finnish driver blamed on his foot slipping on the brake.

But the more immediate threat to Mikkola remained the Porsche of Jean-Luc Therier and Michel Vial. The good-natured 35-year-old Frenchman closed hard on the Audi when he clocked a fast 18 min 33 sec. Therier's compatriots, Guy Frequelin and Jean Todt, in a Talbot Lotus, snatched third place from the works Renault Turbo of Jean Ragnotti and Jean-Marc Andrie.

With Mikkola down in ninth place, the lead of Therier's Porsche was a fragile 62 seconds over his compatriots, Guy Frequelin and Jean Todt, in a Talbot Lotus. The Renault 5 Turbo of Jean Ragnotti and Bruno Saby, of France, held third and fourth positions.

The Opel Ascona of Klaus Kleint was nearly three minutes behind Therier and coming under attack from the works Fiat 131 Abarth of Markku Alen, of Finland, and the Lancia Stratos of the 1979 winner of the event, Bernard Darniche.

LEADING PLACINGS: 1, J. L. Therier (France), Porsche, 3 hrs 54 min 10 sec in penalties; 2, J. Ragnotti (France), Renault 5 Turbo, at 1:07; 3, G. Frequelin (France), Talbot Lotus, at 2:41; 4, K. Kleint (WG), Opel Ascona, at 3:21; 5, B. Saby (France), Renault 5 Turbo, at 3:50; 6, B. Darniche (France), Lancia Stratos, at 6:22; 7, A. Kullang (Sweden), Opel Ascona, at 6:40; 8, M. Alen (Finland), Fiat Abarth 131, at 7:49; 9, J. Almeras (France), Porsche, at 12:58; 10, H. Mikkola (Finland), Audi Quattro, at 14.—Agence France-Presse.

Rackets

# Regiments in disarray

By Roy McKelvie

Christopher Braithwaite, a former holder, duly reached the quarter-final round of the Army championships at Queen's Club yesterday. He completed a last eight as strong as any the Army has had for a good many years, containing, among others, Mark Nicholl, the holder, and David Reed-Felstead, a former holder, who needed four well-fought games before beating Neil Policy.

The singles, however, were overshadowed by the inter-regimental doubles championship, an event that carries a massive trophy, and two matches in particular.

Paul Watts and Davie Panton, an educationalist and doctor respectively, recovered from losing the first three games to beat the First Battalion of the Coldstream Guards (Michael Chatwin and Fred Shorrock) by 8—15, 13—6, 9—15, 15—3, 15—3, 15—1, 15—12. This stirring contest took a dramatic turn as the losers began to lose concentration and, as the winners lost their nervousness, things swung their way.

Panton made a service run of 14 in the sixth game, but it was still anyone's match when the Coldstream Guard were in hand at 12—13 in the final. Here CSM Shorrock, far better dressed—freshly-laundered cricket flannels and linen shirt—than the majority of officers, having worked manfully to bring his side back into the match, was beaten by a stroke that jumped awkwardly off the forehand wall. Panton finished the match.

The Sappers and Ordnance, Ian Dobbie and Barry Aitken, won the other marathon against the 17/21 Lancers, Andrew Strong and Hugo Akerman, by 15—9, 12—15, 15—9, 11—15, 15—3, 9—15, 15—10. Akerman was the strongest player in court; but at 10—10 in the final game, the winners managed to return his service and keep the ball away from him.

SINGLES: Second round: Lieutenant M. B. H. Evans beat CSM F. Shorrock, 15—4, 15—4, 15—11; Captain D. M. Reed-Felstead beat Lieutenant N. G. T. Policy, 15—2, 15—10, 4—15, 15—3; Major A. S. G. Drew beat 2nd Lieutenant G. W. N. Barker, 15—1, 15—9, 15—0; 2nd Lieutenant G. A. J. De Lotbiniere beat Captain P. G. Hingston, 15—0, 15—0, 15—6; Captain C. H. Braithwaite beat Lieutenant J. R. Boughey, 15—1, 15—5, 15—1.

DOUBLES: Inter-Regimental championship: RAEC-RAMC (Major P. N. F. Watts and Major D. Panton) beat 1st Coldstream Guards (Lieutenant M. W. Chatwin and CSM F. Shorrock), 8—15, 13—16, 9—15, 15—3, 15—3, 15—1, 15—12; RE/RAOC (Lieutenant-Colonel W. I. C. Dobbie and Major E. B. C. Aitken) beat 17/21 Lancers (Captain A. B. Strong and 2nd Lieutenant A. H. S. Akerman), 15—9, 12—15, 15—9, 11—15, 15—3, 9—15, 15—10; Blues and Royals RHG/D (Captain D. M. Reed-Felstead and Major T. D. L. Hardy) beat RAC (Lieutenant N. G. T. Policy and 2nd Lieutenant J. R. Boughey), 15—6, 15—12, 15—5, 15—6; 13/18th Horseguards (2nd Lieutenant G. A. J. De Lotbiniere and 2nd Lieutenant G. W. N. Barker) beat 2nd Coldstream Guards (Captain N. E. W. Parsons and Captain P. G. Hingston), 15—5, 15—4, 15—8, 15—2.

## For the record

### Cricket

BOMBAY: Women's match (48 overs): India, 118 (41.4 overs); England, 118 for 2 (33.4 overs). England won by 8 wickets.

### Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Phoenix Suns 94, New York Knicks 94; Utah Jazz 102, Detroit Pistons 99; Los Angeles Lakers 124, Portland Trail Blazers 113.

### Swimming

CHRISTCHURCH: New Zealand Games: Men: 200m free-style: 1, D. Northway (US), 1:52.65; 200m butterfly: 1, L. Maily (Canada), 2:05.89; 200m individual medley: 1, A. Baumann (Canada), 2:05.45; 100m free-style relay: 1, Sweden, 3:52.15. Women: 200m breaststroke: 1, L. Rousholdt (Canada), 2:38.60; 100m free-style: 1, H. Strang (US), 58.12; 200m butterfly: 1, M. Ford (Australia), 2:15.22.

### Tennis

VINA DEL MAR (Chile): J. Higueras (Spain) beat P. Elter (WG), 7—5, 6—1; A. Cortes (Colombia) beat H. Schoenfield (US), 6—1, 3—1 (ret); P. Rebolledo beat S. Simmonsson (Sweden), 6—0, 6—0; T. Tiltti beat J. L. Macso (Spain), 6—2, 6—1; K. Johansson (Sweden) beat J. L. Ayala, 4—6, 6—3, 6—2; C. Casa (France) beat S. Freyss (France), 7—5, 5—6, 6—2; D. Bedell (France) beat R. Fagell (US), 6—1, 6—2.

RANKINGS: ATP (US unless stated): 1, B. Borg (Sweden); 2, J. McEnroe; 3, J. Connors; 4, G. Mayer; 5, G. Vilas (Argentina); 6, I. Lendl (Czechoslovakia); 7, H. Solomon; 8, J. L. Clerc (Argentina); 9, V. Gerulaitis; 10, B. Teacher.

Hockey

# Craig's expertise helps Association to a draw

By Sydney Friskin

Oxford University 1 HA XI 1

The Hockey Association XI, composed entirely of players from the England under-21 squad, drew their annual match with Oxford University at The Parks yesterday. The match was used as an early exercise for England's participation in the junior European championship to be held at Barcelona from September 24 to 27.

Oxford opened the scoring in the 12th minute through Jenna after a free hit from the left of the field. But 10 minutes later, Craig, England's new short corner expert, drove home a fine shot to put the teams on equal terms.

Both sides then earned several long and short corners but quick running from the line and good saves by the goalkeepers prevented further score. Oxford were on top for the first 15 minutes of the second half, but the HA dominated play towards the end.

Joyce Whitehead writes: West play East today in the fifth women's territorial match on the Imperial Athletics Ground, Knowle, Bristol (2.15). Also today the British Polytechnic Sports Association are holding the quarter-final round of their women's hockey championship. North Stafford play Leeds at Stoke-on-Trent and Oxford play Bristol at Oxford Polytechnic. Brighton (Chelsea CPE) play Thames (Dartford CPE) at Chelsea College, Eastbourne and Sheffield (Lady Mabel CPE) play Lancaster at Wentworth Woodhouse, Rotherham.

## Chinese girl wins

Christchurch, Jan 27.—Du Huiying, aged 17, of China, took the three-metre springboard event in the New Zealand Games at Queen Elizabeth II Park. Huiying, who scored 412.90 points, was taking part in only her second international competition. The first was in Yugoslavia last year.

Athletics

# Inducement to support a worthy cause

Athletes are being offered an almost total subsidy as an inducement to compete in the United Kingdom national championships next May. The snag is that the Games are to be held at Antrim, Northern Ireland, and David Shaw, secretary of the British Amateur Athletics Board, accepts that some athletes will be reluctant to compete there.

Normally athletes have to pay half their fares for domestic events but this time they are being offered a package which includes a return air flight to Belfast, hotel accommodation and meals, all for £15. The normal cost would be £140.

Ainsley Bennett has withdrawn from Britain's athletic team for the indoor international against West Germany in Dortmund this weekend because of university studies. Earl Tulloch replaces him in the 400 metres, and Peter Little takes Tulloch's place in the 200 metres. Paul Batten runs in the 4 x 400 metres.

## Latest European snow reports

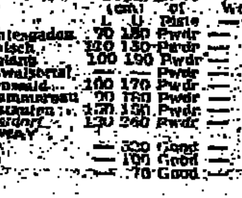
| | Depth L (cm) | Depth U (cm) | Piste | Conditions Off piste | Runs to resort | Weather (5 pm) | °C |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Andermatt | 170 | 370 | Good | Crust | Good | Fine | -9 |
| Hard patches on south slopes | | | | | | | |
| Arosa | 130 | 170 | Good | Varied | Good | Fine | -6 |
| New snow on good base | | | | | | | |
| Avoriaz | 170 | 203 | Good | Varied | Good | Fine | -3 |
| Good skiing, sunny weather | | | | | | | |
| Grindelwald | 110 | 230 | Good | Varied | Good | Fine | -2 |
| Good skiing on all runs | | | | | | | |
| Isola | 25 | 55 | Worn | Varied | Poor | Fine | 4 |
| Patchy areas, snow needed | | | | | | | |
| La Plagne | 200 | 270 | Good | Varied | Good | Sun | 0 |
| Good skiing on all piste | | | | | | | |
| Mürren | 170 | 400 | Good | Heavy | Good | Fine | -1 |
| Pistes in excellent condition | | | | | | | |
| St Anton | 135 | 450 | Good | Powder | Good | Sun | -5 |
| New snow on good base | | | | | | | |
| Seefeld | 125 | 195 | Good | Heavy | Good | Fine | -3 |
| New snow on good base | | | | | | | |
| Tignes | 200 | 280 | Good | Varied | Good | — | -2 |
| New snow on good base | | | | | | | |
| Zermatt | 40 | 130 | Good | Varied | Good | Fine | -2 |
| Excellent skiing above 2,000m | | | | | | | |

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources:

| GERMANY | Depth L (cm) | Depth U (cm) | State of Piste | Weather | °C |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Berchtesgaden | 70 | 180 | Pwdr | — | -10 |
| Garmisch | 120 | 130 | Pwdr | — | -12 |
| Lindelang | 100 | 190 | Pwdr | — | -10 |
| Kleinwalsertal | — | — | Pwdr | — | -10 |
| Mittenwald | 100 | 170 | Pwdr | — | -8 |
| Oberammergau | 20 | 160 | Pwdr | — | -11 |
| Oberstaufen | 130 | 150 | Pwdr | — | -10 |
| Oberstdorf | 130 | 260 | Pwdr | — | -11 |
| NORWAY | | | | | |
| Filse | — | 300 | Good | — | -12 |
| Geilo | — | 100 | Good | — | -7 |
| Gol | — | 70 | Good | — | -10 |
| Lillehammer | — | 88 | Good | — | -10 |
| Norefjell | — | 50 | Hard | — | -9 |
| Oslo | — | 60 | Hard | — | -15 |
| Voss | — | 305 | Good | — | -5 |
| Rjukan | — | 60 | Good | — | -10 |

## Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Los Angeles Kings 6, Quebec Nordiques 5; Boston Bruins 3, Colorado Rockies 3; Minnesota North Stars 3, Calgary Flames 2; Buffalo Sabres 5, New York Islanders 3; Detroit Red Wings 4, Toronto Maple Leafs 2.



Why Mr Frank Chapple's attack on the electoral college may yet be vindicated

# The man who really scored at Wembley

Mr Frank Chapple, the favourite *bête noire* of the Left, made one of the few articulate and intellectually honest speeches of the day during Labour's special conference at Wembley. He was barracked but his presentation only faltered once, and there the needle temporarily stuck in the groove.

As the protest mounted, the electricians' leader returned three times to his complaint that, unless the party leader was elected by the "one man, one vote" system, then the choice would be influenced by Communists, Fascists and Conservatives.

In the event, his appeal fell on predictably deaf ears because the block votes had already been marshalled in support of an electoral college. The only argument was over who should have the greatest say, and some unions now show every sign of embarrassment at getting more than they really wanted.

But however the power shares are stacked, an issue of principle remains: whose finger on the political trigger? Can the choice of the leader of the Labour Party be decisively influenced by trade unionists owing allegiance to another party?

Insofar as these things can be judged at all, the reaction of conference delegates to Mr Chapple appeared to be a riposte to what was seen as a "Reds under the bed" mentality.

In fact, the "official" Communists are probably stronger



Mr Chapple: barracked.

now in terms of covert political clout than for many years. The economic recession has robbed the Communist Party of much of its traditional industrial field of play on the shopfloor. But its ability to exert power within the "Broad Left" of the Labour movement has grown apace.

On their own, the Communists can achieve nothing. Nowhere in top union echelons do they enjoy a majority. There are only two party members on the 40-strong TUC general council. There are just four on the 25-member executive committee of the National Union of Mineworkers; two sit on the nine-member executive of the train drivers' union, the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef). There are about half a dozen on the Transport and General Workers Union executive and about the same number on the executive of the National Union of Railwaymen. Their numbers on the policy-making national committee of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers has diminished in recent years, and in unions like the General and Municipal Workers' and the electricians their influence is negligible.

But although their numbers are small, in the Seventies' climate of Left credibility they achieved much by working through their Labour allies. Mr Michael Costello, the Communist Party industrial organizer, was a keen lobbyist in the bars at last October's conference and defends the unions' capture of power. "No new principle affecting the basis of decision-making has been taken", he said. "The unions have always been the decisive force in the Labour Party.

"The Wembley decision simply corrects an anomalous position that had become intolerable once the Parliamentary Labour Party ceased to represent the party's policies. Communists, as members of affiliated unions, have always paid the political levy and have thus been open members of the Labour Party in the sense decided by the party's founders and enshrined in the constitution."

His disingenuous explanation of the party line will not cut much ice with Dr David Owen and his colleagues, who fear with some justice that if the trade union votes in Labour's electoral college are to be cast by union executives, then Communists and their almost undistinguishable allies in the Labour Party will indeed play a substantial role.

Of the risk of Fascist influence little needs to be said. The National Front has had a minimal success in infiltrating some union branches particularly in the London area among railwaymen and in postal sorting offices. But they are a social problem rather than a political force.

But the position of the Conservatives is much more ambiguous. In the first place, the party's "labour" arm, has been conducting a reasonably successful campaign to persuade Tory voters who belong to unions to opt out of paying the political levy to the Labour Party. The figures speak for themselves. More than 200,000 engineering workers out of a total membership of 1.2 million do not pay the levy. In the 130,000 - strong boilermakers' society, the figure is 51,000. In the 349,000-member builders' union, the union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians, 149,000 have opted out. And in the print union the Society of Graphic and Allied Trades, (Sogat), 155,000 out of 205,000 have taken the same course.

Trade unionists who opt out are then barred from taking part in traditional political activity such as electing delegates to the Labour Party conference to the management committees of local parties. They are obliged to remain silent when political business is conducted in the branches.

But in unions where opting out can be an uncomfortable experience (not to put too fine a point on it), Tory members who continue to pay the levy urge support for moderate leaders such as Mr Terry Duffy of the engineering workers. Where the candidates are not so well known, things are more difficult, as witnessed when Mr James Prior, then Shadow Employment Minister, voted at a meeting of his white-collar union, Apex for a candidate who did not seem to be getting much support and wasn't on a "slate." The man turned out to be a Communist.

The general idea of the Conservative trade unionists is to encourage a shift away from class warfare and the policies of confrontation with Tory governments. It is admittedly a long-term strategy and it does not offer much by way of Tory influence on the inner workings of the Labour Party.

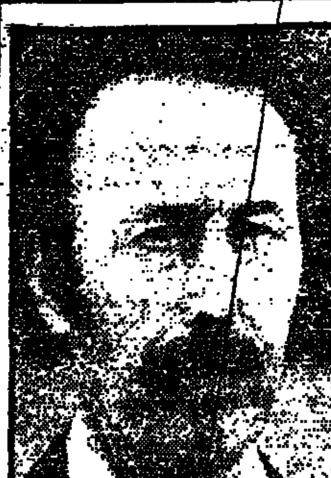
Millions of trade unionists will continue to vote Conservative, however, and if their political views do not permeate very far up the power structure of the unions, their influence may be felt if union leaders canvass their members' feelings before casting their electoral college votes for Labour's leader.

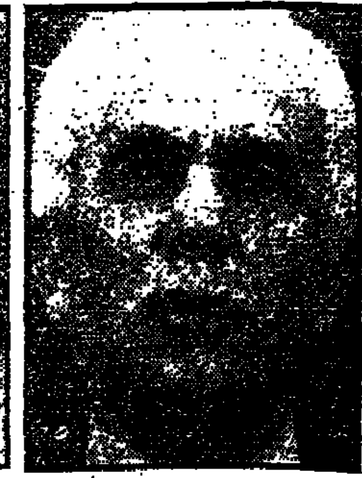
The practical implications of these two alternatives—power exercised by Communist-influenced union leaders or by Tory-voting rank and file members—is neatly summed up by Mr John Bowis, until recently head of social affairs at Conservative Central Office. "The party has indeed got itself into a position where non-Labour supporters will have an influential say in the election of the Labour leader whichever system of electoral college voting they adopt."

"Either the votes will be determined by caucus meetings at the top of the unions, and people like Mr Mick McGahey (the miners' Communist vice-president) and Mr Ken Gill (Communist general secretary of the engineering white-collar union TASS) will have a crucial say in their respective unions. Or, by balloting the union membership in some way, they will bring into the process people who support other parties but nevertheless still pay the political levy."

In practice, unions are likely to behave as they have always behaved. Those with a tradition of consulting the members will pull into the electoral process many trade unionists who vote Tory or Liberal. Those that normally take such decisions at executive level will inevitably involve Communists and their allies. So when the decibels have died down, Mr Chapple will be seen to be right.

**Paul Routledge**
*Labour Editor*





The late President Boumedienne—Utopian hope; and President Chadli—time for concessions.

# Algeria gains from facing up to reality

Two great clenched fists ripping apart the frail chain which has sought to shackle them symbolize Algeria. The hands are carved on to the face of the bulky sandstone monument which rises impressively out of the gardens running down the centre of the Boulevard Khemisti in the heart of modern Algiers.

They epitomize to Algerians the birth—or rebirth—of their nation and inspire their country's foreign policy. It is a foreign policy which has frequently brought Western incomprehension and even derision in the past. It is a foreign policy which today has the very solid achievement to its credit of having enabled the release of the American hostages held by Iran.

It was Algerian understandings of how the hostages must have yearned for freedom and Algerian understanding of the motivation behind the Islamic reolution in Iran which made the country possibly the only one in the world emotionally fitted to act as intermediary between two diametrically opposed nations.

The eight-year-long bloody war of independence—which the average Frenchmen still remembers as a series of atrocities — was for the Algerians an heroic struggle against a hated foreign invader,

Since independence in 1962 Algeria has not been short of problems, particularly economic ones, but there is little or no nostalgia among the people for the days of the colonial past. Rather there is an ongoing pride and joy in being independent.

The result of that is that from the earliest days of nationhood Algeria made it a policy to give uncompromising support to all liberation movements. It was a support which cost the new nation dearly in esteem, especially when so much Western opinion was still shocked by the violence which had surrounded independence.

Algeria's reputation as a supporter of dissidents made it the inevitable and favourite airport destination for many hijackers. The reputation became somewhat grotesque, perhaps, as Algeria more and more spoke out for some of the more outlandish independence movements.

Since these independence movements tended to be largely against what the Algerians identified as "western colonial imperialism" a growing interest in the country developed in the Soviet block, which began to woo the regime of President Boumedienne. The wooing has gone on and has been largely with guns and other weaponry.

At the same time trade with the Soviet block remained, and still remains, at only a tiny level. The main trading partner of Algeria was the United States, with the EEC countries jointly running a good second. Despite its professed socialist tendencies, Algeria has always known where it can best get the capital it needs to achieve the economic independence it is still trying to achieve.

As yet, Algeria is not really independent. It has an external debt estimated at some $20,000m, against which its only real developed asset is its large natural gas and its small oil reserves. Between them they contribute 96 per cent of all Algerian earnings from the world. If the country is to develop fast enough to keep up with its rapidly expanding population it will have to diversify.

This is why, since 1973, Algeria has taken the lead in pressure from the Third World countries to set up what it terms "a new international order" to change the relationship between the poor and the rich nations.

To President Boumedienne this "new order" was an attainable Utopia. Since his death two years ago a new spirit of realism has crept in. President Chadli still champions the cause of the "new order" but pending its establishment he has given clear indications that Algeria is prepared to make concessions to the existing order.

Relations with the United States have been steadily improved—not least because renegotiations of the contract for selling gas to the United States are dragging on. Late last year the United States frigate Edward Macdonnel paid a goodwill visit to Oran and was given a splendid welcome. Prompt and generous American aid following the El Asnam earthquake have been much appreciated by the whole population.

The Queen's visit to the country last year was also a great success, and her visit to the earthquake area won wide praise. The climate is right for a British trade initiative.

This is even more the case because French influence is tangibly receding, albeit very slowly.

At the same time, President Chadli has shown himself amenable to overtures from France for a more friendly relationship, as he has to neighbouring Tunisia and Morocco. Indeed the threat of open war with Morocco over the Western Sahara which was always present in the days of Boumedienne, has receded.

There are signs, too, that the Soviet block is less welcome than it used to be. Behind this lies the selfsame spirit of independence, which dominates the national character.

Algeria has made its displeasure about the invasion of Afghanistan known to the Soviet powers. In this it has remained true to its vocation of champion of liberation causes, which has meant that Algiers has so often in the past been the chosen meeting place for settling disputes. It must be one of the only cities in the world with both a boulevard Che Guevara and an Avenue Franklin Roosevelt.

The huge, modern El Aurassi Hotel, which dominates part of the city's skyline, has seen peace signed between Portuguese and Angolan rebels, between the Polisario and Mauretania, between the Shah and Iraq. The country had a tradition of acting as host to settlements for some time before the hostages were taken prisoner. Some officials talk optimistically now of being able to mediate in the present war between Iran and Iraq.

What the hostage negotiations have done, however, is make the world at large believe in Algeria's ability to referee. "We did this for humanitarian reasons," an official explained after the hostage agreement was read out in the Aurassi. "All we want in return is a little respect."

**Ian Murray**

Bernard Levin

# Mammoth footprints seen in Piccadilly

I don't know when, or indeed whether, I have had a more depressing experience in an art gallery than that provided by the exhibition at the Royal Academy, *A New Spirit in Painting*. The title seems to me the most stupendous misnomer since the term "People's Democracies" was coined; the spirit visible on the Academy's walls is about as new as Queen Anne, the Woolly Mammoth or the political thinking of Mr Michael Foot. Hundreds and hundreds of square feet are devoted to work which is not only not new but which represents the exhausted fag-end of a tradition which was born dead and has been getting deader ever since; it is not too much to say that if you really want to know why most of the population would never dream of entering an art gallery you will find the answer roughly halfway along Piccadilly on the northern side.

There are exceptions, of course. The three Hockneys are full of light and colour, though they are below his best; a huge Matta, *Trans-aparence du Verbe*, throbs with life-energy; R. B. Kitaj, in *The Orientalist*, reminds us that one of the most important functions of art used to be to show the humanity in humanity; Lucien Freud, though he certainly doesn't do that, offers a portrait, *The Big Man*, of outstanding vigour (and, incidentally, draughtsmanship); there are four Picassos which, though they are sub-standard ones and anyway look as though they have wandered into the place by mistake, effortlessly demonstrate the difference between genius and talent, to say nothing of the difference between genius and mediocrity, let alone genius and a moderate ability at the three-card trick.

There are a few more things. Balthus deserves a second glance; you can regard Francis Bacon as a significant artist, well worth giving wall-space to, if you like, though I would be obliged if you would refrain from trying to convince me of the validity of your belief; Frank Auerbach has a certain skill; Willem de Kooning is all right if you like that sort of thing (I don't actually dislike it myself). And that is just about that.

The most striking quality about most of the rest is its lifelessness; by the end of my second tour of the exhibition, I was longing for Carl André to come and fold a few *blankets*



Two Royal Academy exhibits: Lucien Freud's Head of the Big Man and Andy Warhol's portrait of David Hockney

or pile up some bricks, or for Whistler to sue Ruskin, or for the Dadaists to burst in and smash the entire place to pieces. Room after room displays nothing but a hopeless, negative, *Weltschmerz*, appropriately enough, the Germans are by far the worst, and the worst of those is Markus Lüpertz, whose work calls urgently for somebody to start the Second World War all over again. And at any rate Lüpertz is saying something, even if it is something that nobody in his right mind would want to hear; but you would hardly believe, I think, that there are *six* works by Andy Warhol, that one-man demonstration of the triumph of publicity over art. Or that there are five of the silly scribblings of Cy Twombly. Or that there is a rectangle by Alan Charlton, seven yards wide by three high, divided horizontally into seven identical yard-wide slices, painted in an *absolutely* even blue-grey monochrome from end to *end*, which has prompted the chief ass of the three asses who have selected the exhibits to refer, in his introduction in the catalogue, to "the Beckett-like loneliness of Alan Charlton's canvases".

The catalogue, apart from the contribution of the asses aforementioned (they are Christos M. Joachimides, Norman Rosenthal and Nicholas Serota, and the last of them ought to know better, being the Director of the Whitechapel Gallery), is excellent; every one of the pictures is illustrated, well over half of the reproductions being in colour, and there are ample biographical and other details, though these do not constitute an entirely unqualified blessing, as they include, in the note on a dreary Italian called Mario Merz, a passage which I had to read twice to make sure that I had not written it myself as a parody:

> Merz sought to suggest the parallel between social or economic ills and proliferation by confronting such simple (even primitive) images as the igloo with a neon tube moulded into the numbers of Fibonacci's numerical progression. Around 1973 he began incorporating a numerical element into the structure of the work itself. Thus, selecting a cafeteria as a typical site for human proliferation, he constructed tables that would accommodate people in groups of 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34 and 55. When this series was exhibited in the Akademie der Künste in Berlin the tables were used by visitors, which reveals Merz's tendency to underline his didactic intensions by encouraging a physical or spatial interaction between the spectator and the artwork.

Then there is Robert Ryman, who paints canvases plain white all over and calls them *Bridge*, *Division*, *Unit*, *Crest* and *Acme* ("Dear Marje Proops, I suffer from Acme") respectively; there is Jannis Kounellis, who entirely fills something like 250 square yards of paper with hundreds of more or less identical skull-shaped ovals; there is Georg Baselitz, a painter of average Gordon Fraser Gallery Christmas-card quality whose contribution to civilisation lies not in the pictures but in the fact that he has had them hung upside-down, thus inevitably leading *Le Chef des Anes* to say that in doing so the artist "not only liberated himself from the bonds of a traditional conception of painting but took up, by this affront, a position of resistance within the context of art".

Now you can disagree with any or all of these judgments of mine; they are as subjective as anybody else's. But what in the name of Giotto is *new* about any of this? More to the point, where is the *spirit*? What spirit is suggested by Dieter Hacker's picture of what seems to *be* one gentleman about to set fire to the hair of another? Or of Howard Hodgkin's mainly red rectangle, in which can be discerned what look like the ends of sawn firewood-logs, which is entitled *The Green Chateau*? Or of Jean Hélion's pleasant and colourful trivialities?

"There is one thing", murmured a fellow-sufferer; "most of the pictures are so big that you can stand at the end of the room and see them all well enough to decide that you don't want a closer look". But I did take a closer look, and came out by the same door as in I went. It may be that there aren't as many as 150 pictures anywhere by living artists that add up to a coherent statement of any interesting general tendency. But in that case the solution would have been to wait until some such tendency made itself apparent, rather than cobble up this implausible suggestion that the new spirit in painting is only the old dead spirit exhumed in its worm-eaten shroud.



# The danger of holding trials on camera

The United States has taken an unfortunate step towards denying defendants in criminal cases the option of having what they consider to be an unprejudiced trial. A decision of the Supreme Court on Monday upheld the constitutional right of states to allow television coverage of criminal trials, even if the accused objected

Some 21 states at present allow television access to trials, although 10 of them require the accused's consent to such coverage. Following the Supreme Court's decision, it will now be open to all states to give the go-ahead to televised reporting of trials.

The case was brought to the Supreme Court by two Miami policemen accused of burglary. At the *time* of their trial, Florida was conducting a one-year experiment (since made permanent) of television coverage of court proceedings. British viewers saw some of the results of that in the BBC 2 series, *Circuit II, Miami*, in 1979.

The Supreme Court failed to find any evidence that the trial of the two men had been tainted by television coverage, let alone that all television reporting of trials would be prejudicial. The decision stressed that it would always be open to accused to appeal from a jury verdict on the grounds of prejudice caused by the presence of the cameras, or by the accounts given in broadcast news items.

Chief Justice Warren Burger, in a decision adopted by six of the eight judges (the other two agreed with the result but wrote separate opinions) said that merely because there was possible prejudice to a defendant in having the trial covered by television did not make that form of reporting unconstitutional. There might be similar prejudice in written reports, but they were not prohibited.

On the surface, that reasoning does not seem unreasonable. But anyone who has seen the effect of the television cameras on the conduct of criminal trials would feel considerable unease.

In the Miami series, everyone clearly played to the camera—judges, lawyers on both sides, witnesses and the accused. The trials thus televised were significantly different in nature to what they would have been had reporters in the courtroom represented only the printed word.

The news bulletins shown every day of a trial's highlights would have had far greater impact than radio or newspaper summaries of the same proceedings. In short, the trials were distorted by the presence of television, and by the knowledge that excerpts were going to be shown state-wide, or even, if the case was spectacular enough, nationally.

All this could be justified if the accused were themselves happy about having their trials televised. What the Supreme Court has done is to allow the state authorities to impose television coverage over the objections of protesting accused. That cannot be good for the reputation of American justice.

**Marcel Berlins**
Legal Correspondent

# LONDON DIARY

## Hard labour for short sharp sentences

You know how it is there early in the morning in Hampstead with the bums still asleep against the trees of the Heath; before even the dustcarts come by with plastic sacks for the dustbins? Well, we came up from Camden Town and we heard it. All around. The automatic fire.

"Remingtons," Harry said, pretty mean. "And Imperials and an Adler portable. And an IBM golfball with electric carriage return."

Harry knew. He had been trying for a year to make it with a broad from the council typing pool.

The winter sun climbed in the sky, diffused and milky like old men's eyes. Typewriters clicked with menace from every window. We took cover in the cafe.

They were waiting for us, just like they said. Two of them. We sat down and one of them came over.

"What gives?" said Harry.

"We face the white bull that is paper with no words on it," said the big one.

Harry sprang to his feet and smashed the big guy's jaw. "Speak English," he snarled.

The big guy slumped in a corner, real heavy. "It's the Fourth International Imitation Hemingway Competition," he said. He spat out two teeth. "Seek inspiration. The words will come quick, clean and true."

Harry punched him in the stomach. "More," he said. "The facts."

"They will pick the winner from those who have followed the rules: a one-page parody of Hemingway." The big guy wiped blood.

"And you have to mention Harry's Bar. Nicely. Harry will fly the winner to his bar in Los Angeles. For dinner. For two.

"Some will be funny. All will be judged. His son Jack Hemingway will preside. Ray Bradbury will help. There will be dialogue, character sketches, action scenes. Harry will keep them all.

"Time passes, my friend. The Big Ring closes on February 15. The judges wait. Let me return to my keyboard."

They left. We left. Harry knew a place. We went in. Harry ordered up two Spanish absinthes. He spent a long time staring into the bright liquid winking in his glass, catching the reflection of the Macdonald's hamburger sign. At last he spoke.

"They're certainly doing it in earnest up here," he said.

## Leaf year

There is good news for those who agree with Kipling that a woman is no match for a good cigar. Derek Harris, chairman of one of our leading Havana cigar importers who has just returned from the Caribbean, reports that the Cubans have finally defeated the blue mould fungus which decimated their last two tobacco harvests. Thanks to finding an effective herbicide, they are about to harvest one of the best crops for many years.

Good Havanas have been in short supply recently, although the Cubans have been doing their best to keep up supplies to Britain, one of their most prized markets.

The fruits of this year's bumper crop should be in British shops next year, but there is a catch. The cost to Cuba of eradicating the pest has meant that cigar prices will rise by about 12 per cent almost immediately, and there is the additional threat that the Chancellor will impose a substantial increase in tobacco duty in the March budget. Still, I don't suppose Lord Grade will be reduced to Woodbines.

## Waning

In an opinion poll announced yesterday, Mrs Thatcher notched up second place ahead of Ayatollah Khomeini and Idi Amin, but failed to snatch the lead from Adolf Hitler.

However the Prime Minister need not lose too much sleep over the results, astonishing though they may be; they are merely the outcome of the latest annual survey by Madame Tussaud's in London to discover who are the most feared and hated figures in the waxworks. The Ayatollah, who was last year's clear winner, has been toppled to fourth place.

While elevating Hitler to a pinnacle of nastiness, the voters deserted Churchill, last year's number one "hero of all time", replacing him with Superman. The late John Lennon has displaced Bjorn Borg, who nevertheless remains the favourite wax sportsman. No one, no matter how elevated, is safe from the vagaries of the Tussaud voters. Even the Queen has been knocked from her perch in fifth place by Larry Hagman, the horrid citizen of Dallas. Fame sure is a fleeting thing.

## Facade lift

One of the earliest indications that the Prime Minister and the lately deposed Leader of the Commons did not see eye to eye on every conceivable subject occurred more than a year ago when Norman gave qualified but unmistakeable approval to a new scheme for offices for his fellow MPs. The building, designed by Sir Hugh Casson, would have cost an estimated £120m, and within hours an indignant Mrs Thatcher declared that the nation could not possibly afford such luxuries.

But that being so, what now happens to the buildings on the site, in Bridge Street, which will stay where they are for the foreseeable future? Although one of them, St Stephen's House, was recently taken over for use by Parliamentary staff serving the new Commons select committees, the remainder are either empty or let on short leases. The freehold is owned by the Crown, but the idea that they might be converted quite cheaply to serve the needs of



'Perhaps Foot only wants David Owen to stay in the Party as he's a doctor...'

our overcrowded legislators appears not to have been considered.

Moreover, the facades are shabby and dirty and can hardly do much to impress the millions of tourists who visit the area every year. If Michael Heseltine, the Environment Secretary, is as keen on conservation and renovation as he professes, could he not persuade his Property Services Agency to get busy with scrubbing brushes and a few pots of paint?

## Booked out

Public spending cuts appear to be playing havoc with our public libraries. On the few occasions that I go to my local library and find it open, I also find the assistants few and the shelves depleted. Is this, I wonder, a case for the return of private enterprise?

Before the days of universal free reading you could pay a visit to the profusion of little libraries tucked away in corners of W. H. Smith and Boots the Chemists, and pick up a Barbara Cartland with your bottle of aspirin. Indeed some readers would say that the two go together.

But the Public Library Act of 1964 put an end to much of that. The subscription libraries in the chain stores, which had specialized in romantic fiction since the beginning of the century, gradually disappeared as public libraries improved.

A mere handful of subscription libraries have survived. The Leeds Library, founded in 1768, with its maximum of 500 members paying £12 each a year, retains a Victorian atmosphere. Harrods has a lending library for 3,000 members paying up to £45 each a year. The splendid London Library has one million volumes and 6,500 members.

But these are mere oases in a desert of illiteracy. The Bradford Library and Literary Society closed its doors for the last time on December 31 after surviving for more than 200 years.

Under the Thatcher doctrine of self-help, perhaps the rebirth of the subscription library is already overdue.

*Introducing the* New Standard *drama awards yesterday, Ned Sherrin managed a double-barrelled jibe at both recent political events and the National Theatre's controversial play* The Romans in Britain. *Quoth Sherrin: "Not eligible for the best comedy is the Labour Party, which this year did for Michael Foot what last year the Romans did for the Druids."*

**Alan Hamilton**




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# IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN WORSE

The recession is slowing down, but it is not over yet. That is the clear picture which emerges from the latest set of unemployment figures and the report on the economic situation from the Confederation of British Industry. Hopes of an upturn during the current year remain distinctly fragile.

The unemployment figures are slightly less bad than might have been feared. There is a five week period before the January count of the number of unemployed. The increase in the underlying level of unemployment during that period was 103,000, little more than during the previous four weeks. The figures contain other slight straws of hope for the Government, all of which point to the conclusion that the increase in unemployment is certainly not accelerating and may even be slowing down.

Such a conclusion would be consistent with the evidence which is beginning to emerge on the pattern of output at the end of last year. It now looks likely that the drop in national output which occurred so precipitately during the summer may have eased off at the end of the year. The CBI survey of business opinion suggests that the run-down of stocks which played such a key role in this may now be past its worst. It is not safe to conclude from this, however, that output has now reached bottom and that it will start to pick up from now on. Destocking is slowing down, but it is not yet over. The economy is having to make a painful adjustment to a lower level of output overall.

It makes little sense for anyone, least of all the Government, to become obsessed by the detail of just when the absolute bottom in output will be reached and when the upturn will start. Such forecasts are exceedingly difficult to get right and of little practical consequence.

What is clear is that at some point during the current year output will stabilize. It may then rise, but only gently. The increase in unemployment which has been such a feature of the past year will slow down quite markedly, although—given past performance in productivity—the total out of work must be expected to go on rising for the forecastable future.

These are the bad sides of the economic situation. The good side is that inflation is definitely falling faster than even the Government is yet willing to recognize. It now seems probable that at some point during the current year inflation will fall well into single figures. The underlying rate over the past six months, traditionally the best guide to trends, has already dropped to that level.

The decline in the rate of inflation is not solely the result of sterling's continued strength. Domestic costs, particularly wages, are beginning to respond to the new climate. The Government can thus reasonably hope that it is in sight of achieving a sustained fall in inflation as long as its current policies are pursued. The problem is that a continuation of a tight policy makes it relatively unlikely that there will be the sort of growth in output and living standards which governments traditionally feel they need in the years before an election.

In addition, this approach imposes severe structural strains on the economy. The manufacturing sector of industry has already been exposed to severe competition from abroad. This will worsen as long as sterling remains strong. In this situation, the Chancellor should be giving urgent attention to the need to be changing the balance of the economy so that sections such as manufacturing bear less of the burden.

# COALITION TREMORS IN BONN

Three months after its clear election victory, West Germany's coalition government has still not got into its stride. The election was a vote of confidence in the coalition formula, the alliance between the Social Democrats (SPD) and the Free Democrats (FDP), and in the leadership of Herr Schmidt, the Chancellor. But it altered the balance within the coalition by significantly increasing the number of votes that went to the FDP, while only giving the SPD a marginal increase. Consequently the FDP claimed, and has received, greater influence on government policy; but that in its turn has caused resentment on the left wing of the SPD, which is itself larger in the new Bundestag. So instead of a sense of a renewal and of new horizons, there has been a feeling of malaise in Bonn for the past few months, the latest sign of which was this week's abortive attempt by the left wing of the SPD to have the defence budget reduced by 1,000 million Marks.

It is not the first time that a new German government has had initial difficulties of this sort. Four years ago, at the beginning of the last legislature, the two coalition partners had some trouble in resolving their differences; but by the end they were working well together. This time, however, the situation is more tense than before, and there have been suggestions that the coalition might fall apart, with the FDP either forming an alliance with the Christian Democrats or going into opposition and leaving the two large parties to form a grand coalition. For the time being either of these developments seems most unlikely. The FDP has done extremely well out of its alliance with the Social Democrats—it was seen by its supporters in the election as serving as a moderate brake on leftist tendencies in the SPD—and it could jeopardize its gains by changing its tactics. Its leaders have shown no sign of wanting to get out.

The question is whether Herr Schmidt and Herr Genscher, the FDP leader, can pull the coalition together and get it working more smoothly. One of the main immediate challenges is the situation in West Berlin, where the two parties are in coalition and where the previous Mayor, Herr Dietrich Stobbe, was recently forced to resign because of a financial scandal. Berlin, the former capital, has a special significance for Germans, and it was felt to be extremely important for the coalition not to lose power there. So Dr Hans Jochen Vogel, formerly Minister of Justice in Bonn and seen as Herr Schmidt's own chosen successor, has been installed as Mayor; and the hope is that he will be able to hold the city for the coalition in the forthcoming elections in spite of a strong challenge from the Christian Democrats.

West Germany's allies are bound to wonder whether the coalition's difficulties are likely to affect foreign policy, and particularly the decision to install the new medium-range nuclear missiles in Germany, in view of the campaign against them by the SPD left wing. There is no reason to think that they will. Herr Schmidt is firmly committed to a policy of matching Soviet weapons, if only as a basis for disarmament negotiations, and he has great experience in dealing with his own left wing. More to the point is the question whether, with President Reagan now in office in Washington, German-American relations can be raised from the low level to which they sank during the Carter administration. The Germans are strongly committed to a policy of improved relations with Eastern Europe, and they are apprehensive that a more militant policy from Washington might jeopardize that. But there is no reason to fear that they are about to become doubtful members of the alliance, and the new American Administration will secure their cooperation more easily if they recognize this.

# TIME FOR THE TIN POUND

It is well that Sir Geoffrey Howe has brought the desultory old argument about whether we need a one-pound coin to an end at last; otherwise the inevitably ensuing argument about whether the Royal Mint should continue to weigh our pockets down with coins of such small value might have trodden too close on its heels. Already the pound sterling buys only half as much as the fifty-pence piece originally did in 1969; by 1983, when the proposed coin is to be issued, its purchasing power (assuming a 20 per cent inflation rate, perhaps unfairly) may be about the same as that of a two-shilling piece twenty years ago. What we should be talking about is not the tin pound but the tin fiver.

Of course we already have a one-pound coin, exempt from these humiliating fluctuations. The gold sovereign, still struck today, is already worth more than 50 times its nominal value; opinions differ over whether this uniquely qualifies or disqualifies it as a basis for a monetary system. Changes in value are not straightforward in any case. Rawdon Crawley, visiting his son's school in the 1820s in Vanity Fair, sagaciously tipped Master Blackball a sovereign to win his goodwill towards the younger boy. Rawdon was seldom flush with cash, but free with it when he had it. Jos Sedley was quite the reverse, yet even he, some 20 years earlier, had handed over half a guinea to the schoolboy George Osborne, although the latter had just ruined Jos's Hessian boots. Even in those days, such gifts must have been convertible into astronomical numbers of cream buns: probably the equivalent of several weeks' pay for a labourer. Any comparison with the tariff at a present-day comprehensive is unreal: not even Master Blackball's sovereign could buy him a turn at Space Invaders.

It would be tempting to propose that the new coin should bring back into everyday circulation the splendid Regency image of St George and the dragon which Pistrucci designed in 1816 (the model for St George was an Italian servant at a hotel in Leicester Square; it is not recorded who sat for the dragon). The fifty-pence piece successfully reprieved Britannia in this way. But if, as proposed, the sub-sov is to be of the same diameter as the sovereign and yellow in colour, it is important that there should be no possibility of its being passed off as a redesigned version of the gold coin.

The two new additions to the coinage will give a depressingly ad hoc air to the range, with no less than four distinct species of coin, brown, white and yellow, discs and oblate heptagons. The first government that really conquers inflation should mark its triumph with a comprehensive redesign of the coinage. In view of the execrably insipid design of the reverses of almost every British coin in the last fifty years, fresh images could hardly fail to be an improvement.

## Criminal procedure moves

*From Sir David Napley*

Sir, The Philips commission on criminal procedure suggests that in place of committal for trial there be substituted an "application for discharge". A majority (the ratio is not revealed) doubted on such an application "whether the magistrates need to take their decision upon the basis of oral evidence tested under cross-examination". It is hoped that neither the suggestion nor the convoluted reasoning on which it is based will be accepted.

"Magistrates", they rightly observe, "are reluctant to dismiss cases and over 2,000 or just over 2 per cent of those committed for trial are discharged in the crown court for insufficient evidence. That figure is probably low, but means, if the average cost of a case for both sides is £750, a loss of public or private money of £1,500,000 every year and, if each case lasts approximately half to a full day, wastage of four to eight years' court time, whilst congestion in some crown courts is still a matter of concern. Add that "ordered and directed acquittals in the crown court for insufficient evidence in 1978 were over 40 per cent nationally and as high as 54 per cent in one area", and it argues not for weakening, but strengthening the sifting process.

The commission rightly regrets the lack of effective scrutiny of the case by the prosecution and the defence and the failure of prosecution witnesses "to give evidence in a satisfactory manner". They might have added that over many years the attitude of the lay magistracy to committals has been half-hearted, dispiriting and mere routine.

It is inconsistent to assert: "so far as possible no one should be required to stand trial in the absence of good cause" whilst believing that this principle can be protected by reference alone to written statements prepared by the police. They are often unreliable, and frequently contain as positive statements of fact no more than rationalizations between the interested witness and the police officer of what the witness is assisted to recall; the unreliability of the statement can be demonstrated only by cross-examination.

Often, facts absent from the statement can only be elicited by cross-examination, throwing a wholly different complexion on the statement, or enabling further investigations to be made in the limited time available to the defence. There are also other important aspects too lengthy to mention.

"An application for discharge" with oral evidence and cross-examination would only be "committal proceedings" by another name. The problem is not the form of the process but the reluctance of lay magistrates to dismiss. What is essential is a radical change of heart, both on their part and that of the higher judiciary when they are guiding them. Much time and money would be saved and the liberty of the subject protected by a meaningful examination of the quality of the evidence when tested by cross-examination, and committal proceedings, competently conducted, are often vital to the outcome of the ultimate trial.

Finally, committal proceedings should only be heard by those who are robust, experienced and knowledgeable enough to recognize those cases which should and should not be sent for trial. If that is achieved they should be left as they are.

Yours truly,
DAVID NAPLEY,
Kingsley, Napley and Company,
107-115 Long Acre, WC2.
January 20.

## The cost of dying

*From Mrs Elisabeth Goodwin*

Sir, I recently helped a friend make funeral arrangements for a deceased relative and was horrified to learn that the cost of the cheapest coffin (not the funeral) was £286. As my friend's relative was to be cremated, presumably the coffin also would be cremated?

As I approach my three score years and ten, would it not be a good investment to buy my coffin now.

Yours faithfully,
ELISABETH GOODWIN,
Flat 3,
Thelton
Crossbush,
Arundel,
West Sussex.
January 22.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Criminal attempts at the impossible

*From Professor J. A. Andrews and others*

Sir, When opening the debate on the Criminal Attempts Bill (Report, January 20), the Home Secretary expressed the belief that it would clarify the law, but in this he has, unfortunately, been misadvised. The issue relates to impossible attempts.

At present it is a crime to attempt or conspire to commit a crime, with one major exception. People who try or plan to commit crimes are not guilty of attempt or conspiracy if it turns out that, owing to a mistake of fact on their part, the crime is impossible of commission. So (it seems) the following are untouched by the law: a person who tries to steal from a handbag that turns out to be empty; one who shoots through a skylight at what he thinks is a policeman when there is no one on the roof; a terrorist who, thinking that he is acquiring explosives, is given a substance that will not explode because of the lack of an essential ingredient; men who set up a plant for extracting cocaine illegally from a substance that turns out to have no cocaine in it.

After prolonged study of the subject the Law Commission proposed that this limitation on the law should be abolished. A person whose criminal plan fails because of his mistake of fact should be liable to conviction (though, of course, he would not be guilty if what he was aiming to do was not a crime at all but only an imaginary crime). The would be criminal is morally as guilty as if the crime he had in view were possible of commission.

It is true that some attempts are not worth prosecuting but, on any formulation, the law of attempt and conspiracy will include some trivial cases and it is impossible as a matter of drafting to leave such cases out merely because they are pretty harmless. The police do not prosecute attempts except in matters of gravity, and would be unlikely to bring charges where an attempt is laughably inept. The Law Commission's well-drafted proposal therefore met with approval by all those who wrote upon it in the legal journals.

Almost inexplicably, the Bill now presented by the Government substantially modifies it. The Bill is vague and self-contradictory, so that if it is passed as it stands its effect will not be settled until after a number of expensive appeals. However, it appears from Home Office statements that the Department's intention is that the pickpocket and marksman should be convicted, but that the cocaine manufacturer and terrorist and various other people should be exempt.

We are professors of law who naturally wish the law to be clear, rational and effective. We think that the present Bill fails in the first two respects and quite possibly in the third. It falls short of minimum standards of clarity. Further, we think that it will not have the effect intended by the Home Office unless its provisions are read in a logically unsatisfactory way. In any case we much prefer both the policy and the drafting of the Law Commission's proposal.

We hope that the present provisions will be amended, preferably on the Government's initiative, to bring them back to the Law Commission's wording.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. ANDREWS,
University of Wales,
D. W. ELLIOTT,
University of Newcastle,
EDWARD GRIEW,
University of Leicester,
BRIAN HOGAN,
University of Leeds,
SIDNEY PREVEZER,
University of Sussex,
J. C. SMITH,
University of Nottingham,
DONALD THOMPSON,
University of Keele,
GLANVILLE WILLIAMS,
University of Cambridge,
Jesus College,
Cambridge.

## Serving democracy

*From Lady Bridges*

Sir, While not disagreeing with Mr John Silkin (Whitehall brief, January 20) that the Civil Service is "by its nature slow to act" (though whether that is always a bad thing may be debatable), I must beg to differ from his view that the "battle" would be between "politicians who are democratically elected and the civil servants who are not".

The process by which political candidates are selected can be and sometimes is marred by practices which are far from being democratic; while our anachronistic electoral system produces results that distort rather than reflect the will of the majority.

Civil servants are not, of course, elected; but I hope Mr Silkin would agree that their appointment at all levels is as open and fair as any in the world, and that there are plenty of watchdogs ready to bark at any alleged discrimination or failure of integrity. The selection of its most senior officers is inevitably more subjective, but there are enough checks and balances, including the preferences of ministers and the periodic swing of the political pendulum, to ensure the representation in its higher ranks of a wide range of views stopping short only of those that are either anarchic or totalitarian.

Writing as a former civil servant, the wife of one, and daughter of another whose greatest pride was his contribution to the introduction of the Lloyd George Insurance Act, I know for a fact that, whatever its imperfections, the Civil Service contains many men and women glad to receive and put forward new ideas, and to subject them to careful constructive scrutiny.

Democracy is a much abused word today. To those with no special axe to grind it means, amongst other things, that Government should reflect the highest common factor in the opinions and aspirations of us, the people. I suggest that judged by this standard rather than solely by selection through the counting of votes, the Civil Service will be found to be at least as "democratic" as are its political masters.

Yours sincerely,
RACHEL BRIDGES,
Flat 5,
15 Draycott Place, SW3.

## Steps to aid Zimbabwe

*From the Chairman of the Wellcome Foundation*

Sir, The letter from Sir Martin Le Quesne (January 19) advocates certain very important propositions which we, within this group, have already implemented without the use of enormous resources, but will nevertheless be of great long-term benefit to Zimbabwe.

Our group has a wholly owned subsidiary which is importantly involved in the veterinary industry in Zimbabwe and was therefore well aware that the war brought about not merely a contraction in the cattle population from five million to four million, but also a destruction of dipping tanks in rural areas. Tick control, vital to the health of cattle, was virtually lost. As soon as conditions allowed our company there, Cooper (Zimbabwe) Limited, instituted in the rural areas a training programme for small farmers in conjunction with the African Development Fund whereby groups of farmers are brought together and retrained by our staff in dipping techniques.

Further, 1980 was the centenary year of our group's original business and as one of the ways of commemorating it we inaugurated in Zimbabwe 19 bursaries, including medicine, veterinary science, agriculture and nursing. The only criteria we suggested for candidates for these bursaries were quite simple—average scholastic achievement, leadership qualities and need. We have undertaken to award these bursaries annually for the next 10 years and hopefully they will therefore make available nearly 200 middle management trained personnel.

The essence of what we did had absolutely no strings attached: selection of candidates for the bursaries and the subsequent monitoring of progress will be made by the authorized colleges and places of learning.

There is no doubt as to the need about which Sir Martin writes and from our experience, there is no doubt that, if help is given, it is greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. SHEPPERD, Chairman,
The Wellcome Foundation Ltd,
The Wellcome Building,
183 Euston Road, NW1.
January 23.

## Labour's future

*From Mr P. M. Williams*

Sir, Very likely before long some "social democrats" will be outside the Labour Party and others in. Such situations have in the past usually led to bitter recriminations between those who go and those who stay, damaging the reputations and weakening the influence of both. Already these are beginning.

Yet the two groups agree with one another far more than they differ. They have far more in common with one another than with the associates they will retain or acquire. They will evoke—are already evoking—the same symbolic figures: Hugh Gaitskell and Anthony Crosland (I write as the biographer of one and a lifelong friend of the other).

Both groups need to remember how many good causes they still both favour; to realize how badly those causes need their combined support; to resist the temptation to justify their own decisions by vilifying those of the others; to keep open lines of communication in the present and prospects of cooperation in the future. Both will face a new situation in one year, or two, or three, as the worst fears that they share come to be fulfilled or dispelled.

Each will be under pressure meanwhile to concentrate its fire on the other. The more that either group succumbs to that pressure, the more their common enemies will benefit.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP WILLIAMS,
Nuffield College,
Oxford.
January 26.

*From Professor Lord Stamp*

Sir, There must be many who, while not subscribing to the political views of a social democratic party if it were to be formed, nevertheless believe that in our democratic society it would have a vitally important part to play in meeting the challenge of fundamentally undemocratic extremism, and that in meeting this threat all other political considerations pale into relative insignificance.

If such a party is to be formed with any chance of success it will require the promise of the widest possible financial support from all such people. In alliance with the Liberal Party it might then bring about that change in the electoral system which alone can banish the threat of extremist totalitarian government for ever.

I remain, Sir, an independent peer and also your obedient servant,
STAMP,
House of Lords.
January 24.

*From Mr Russell Johnston, MP for Inverness (Liberal)*

Sir, The weekend's events, plus the very lucid interview of Mr Michael Foot by Mr Brian Walden on television, had the great merit of bringing sharply into focus the major issues about which the social democrats in the Labour Party are in disagreement with the Labour Party's official policy, as determined in conference and confirmed by its new leader on behalf of its parliamentary party.

Apart from Constitutional matters these are the mixed economy, our future in or out of Europe and collective defence (or multilateralism versus unilateralism).

Could someone please tell me what they disagree with the Liberal Party about?

Yours faithfully,
RUSSELL JOHNSTON,
House of Commons.
January 26.

## Misgivings on Nationality Bill

*From the General Secretary of the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants*

Sir, I was in India when the British Nationality Bill was published. There are a number of white citizens of the United Kingdom and colonies resident in India: they will become British citizens if the Bill is passed. There are also a number of citizens of the United Kingdom and colonies of Indian descent in India, mostly people born or registered as such in East and Central Africa, and holding no other nationality: they will almost all become British overseas citizens.

Some 5,000 of them have applied for special vouchers to settle in Britain: they are having to wait for nearly five and a half years before being issued with vouchers, and the Home Office Minister, Mr Timothy Raison, in a letter to Lord Avebury written since the Bill was published, has effectively confirmed that it is the Government's intention to allow that waiting period to continue to grow.

I talked over the last three weeks to hundreds of those in India who are thus excluded and who will become British overseas citizens. The Government wishes them to believe that the intended change in their nationality status will make little difference to them, because the special voucher scheme will continue. I dutifully passed on this assurance, but it is not easy for someone to accept that their government is going to great trouble to change their nationality status, and yet this will not affect them. It is easier for them to perceive the motive behind passing legislation to remove their right to pass any form of British citizenship on to their children, even if those children are as a result born stateless.

Statelessness will not arise in India because any child born in India is an Indian citizen by birth, yet the Government is seeking to ensure that children born to British citizens temporarily resident in India are born only as Indian citizens, at the same time as it seeks in the Bill to prevent children born to Indian citizens and others temporarily resident in Britain from being born as British citizens.

It is therefore not surprising that the Indian press sees racism in the British Nationality Bill, as you report (January 20). It is not surprising that those who will become British overseas citizens feel indignant and insecure, as I found. And it is not surprising that Britain's international reputation is being seriously damaged, in India and no doubt elsewhere, by racist nationality legislation being heaped upon racially discriminatory changes in the immigration rules.

It is only surprising that the Home Office can feel itself misunderstood. I recommend a visit to India to those Home Office ministers and officials who, you report (January 22), are "angry at what they regard as unjustified criticism". They could then do what the Government has made no attempt whatever to do: explain its proposals to those for whom its third-class citizenship is intended.

Yours faithfully,
IAN MARTIN, General Secretary,
Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants,
44 Theobalds Road, WC1.
January 23.

*From Mr Dick H. Pantlin*

Sir, The British Nationality Bill is about to receive its second reading in the Commons, and is soon to be considered in committee. In your leader of January 15 you particularly invited Parliament to look critically at the present proposal to limit citizenship by descent to the first generation of Britons born abroad. May I express what I believe to be the views of many thousands of British families working in Continental Europe, and their employers, and add my voice in support of your recommendation?

The effect of this part of the Bill should clearly be understood. Any child born outside the United Kingdom, of British parents, whether before or after the Bill becomes law, will become, at best, a "second-class" British citizen, in that, whilst he will have the privileges of British citizenship himself, he will not be able to transmit that citizenship to his children. Moreover, unless one parent happens to have been born in the United Kingdom, such child will have no automatic right to British citizenship. Thus, to take a not uncommon case, a child may have all four grandparents as British citizens born in the United Kingdom, and both parents also British citizens (though born outside the United Kingdom) and yet, if born outside the United Kingdom himself, that child will not have the right to British citizenship by descent. Neither would that child be entitled to citizenship by registration except in the very limited circumstances contemplated in clause 3 of the Bill.

The Bill will therefore discourage many British parents from taking employment abroad, and there will surely be a diminishing number prepared even to accept a temporary move abroad since children born there will either be "second-class" British citizens or not be entitled to British citizenship.

Whether or not this proposal is consistent with the freedoms of movement guaranteed by the EEC, it is my view that it will seriously disadvantage many British families which, to quote the White Paper, "maintain strong connections with this country although spending a great part, or all, of their lives abroad".

I believe that justice would be done if citizenship by descent were to be granted (a) automatically to the second generation born abroad, and (b) to subsequent generations, if there is still a close connection with the United Kingdom. This connection should be defined with reference to the family's cultural and educational background and aspiration; it should not be made dependent upon the parent's conditions of employment and even on the actual place of recruitment. The present proposal would exclude the dependents of the self-employed, and many working for intentionally limited periods in companies, universities, etc, not connected with the United Kingdom, in order to improve their qualifications.

The position of United Kingdom citizens already born abroad, under existing laws, should also be reconsidered. Surely it is unfair to deprive them of the full rights of United Kingdom citizenship which they presently enjoy, and which include the right to transmit such citizenship to their children. There should also, as you so rightly suggest, be adequate rights of appeal against decisions of the Home Secretary.

Yours faithfully,
DICK H. PANTLIN,
Vice-President,
Council of British Chambers of Commerce in Continental Europe,
Avenue de Mercure II,
1180 Uccle,
Brussels,
Belgium.

## The RAF way

*From Mr Tom Freer*

Sir, The letter from your correspondent Mr P. P. C. Barthropp (January 24), does the Royal Air Force less than justice. I, too, was one of the returning prisoners of war who were "packed 27 strong in Lancasters and flown from Brussels to an airfield near Aylesbury", but my recollection of it is not the same as his.

Having been accustomed to the many "longueurs" of transit camps, etc, during my previous five years of service, I was impressed that this journey was organized for us with admirable speed, precision and consideration; and it was accomplished against a background of almost total European confusion, this being the last week of the war before VE day.

The time taken from our discovery by a British armoured patrol on a German farm near Lubeck to our being at home with our families was only four days, which makes the return journey of the United States hostages seem slow indeed.

I remember no de-lousing, and the shortage of telephones was skilfully circumvented by assigning to each of us, as we walked away from the Lancaster, a geisha from the WAAF to take down and post our telegrams. The "slow train" to Cosford took no more than a few hours, and our stay there was no longer than the minimum for fitting us out with clean clothes, ration books and a railway warrant home.

Mr Barthropp implies that, compared with the returning United States hostages our treatment was tough; I found it to be touchingly simple, expeditious and direct.

Yours faithfully,
TOM FREER,
1 Parkside Avenue,
Wimbledon Common, SW19.
January 24.

*From Mr J. C. W. Bushell*

Sir, It is certainly true, as Mr Barthropp says (January 24), that the circumstances in which RAF prisoners of war were returned to the United Kingdom in 1945 were less than heroic. Perhaps one trouble was that at that time no RAF doctor mentioned to us, as the State Department Medical Director is reported as applying to the hostages, the danger of the "post-traumatic stress syndrome".

Still, all is not lost. Should the Ministry of Defence finally decide to refund our POW pay deductions (on account of facilities allegedly provided by our Luftwaffe hosts), that in itself should be a traumatic experience to test those of us who survive.

Yours faithfully,
J. C. W. BUSHELL,
19 Bradbourne Street, SW6.
January 25.

## English Leyland

*From Mr G. M. Smailes*

Sir, Your report of January 14 may perhaps have misled people into believing that the industrial tribunal at Leeds gave an authoritative ruling that British Leyland was guilty of indirect racial discrimination because of the way in which it insisted that people applying for labouring jobs filled in their application forms.

May I make it clear that BL before the hearing had conceded that what had happened constituted this kind of discrimination? The tribunal therefore never considered this particular issue and the order declaring discrimination was made by consent.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE SMAILES,
Regional Chairman,
Regional Office of the Industrial Tribunals,
Minerva House,
29 East Parade,
Leeds.

## Case for economy?

*From Mr C. J. Wise*

Sir, Members of Parliament must be dangerously ill-informed. Mr Philip Holland (January 19) writes that the Department of Employment has over 22,000 civil servants employed in public relations and the issue of work permits.

He is obviously unaware that the majority are, in fact, working very hard in hundreds of local unemployment benefit offices serving "clients" his government has helped to produce. There may be a case for transferring this work to the Department of Health and Social Security and thus Mr Holland's argument would again hold water.

However, it would become an MP to get his facts right before grandly dismissing an entire government department.

Yours faithfully,
C. J. WISE,
72 Farnborough,
Netherfield,
Milton Keynes,
Buckinghamshire.
January 19.

## Voice from the past

*From the Reverend J. M. C. Yates*

Sir, Perhaps one more Brittain story? One morning at Mons we were doing rifle drill by numbers—1, 2, 3, 1—and my luckless neighbour, concentrating on the movements rather than the counting aloud, was doubled off to the guardroom for "idle shouting on parade".

Yours faithfully,
JOHN YATES,
The Rectory, Mells,
Frome, Somerset.



# COURT CIRCULAR

CLARENCE HOUSE
January 27: The Lady Jean Rankin has succeeded Mrs Patrick Campbell-Preston as Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
January 27: Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy attended the Luncheon held for the presentation of *The New Standard* Awards for 1980 at the Savoy Hotel.

This evening, Her Royal Highness and the Hon Angus Ogilvy were present at a Reception and Buffet Supper given by The Chief Rabbi and Mrs Immanuel Jakobovits at 85, Hamilton Terrace, London, on behalf of the Jewish Society for the Mentally Handicapped.

The Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh will lunch with members of the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce at Robinson College, Cambridge, on February 10.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Chancellor of Salford University, will visit the university and attend the annual court meeting on February 13.

The Duke of Edinburgh will address the all-party Conservation Committee of both Houses of Parliament on February 18.

The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Regiment of Wales, will receive the freedom of Swansea on behalf of the regiment on February 20.

## Birthdays today

Major-General W. A. F. L. Fox-Pitt, 85; Professor Lucy Mair, 80; Mr Arthur Rubinstein, 94; Lord Windlesham, 49.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Murray Macdonald will be held at noon on Thursday, February 5, at St Paul's Church, Bedford Street, WC2.

## Prizes for organists

The Royal College of Organists has awarded the following prizes at associateship:
Sawyer and Durrant prizes, C. Bint; Lord St Audries Prize, R. H. Farmer; Sowerbutts and Durrant prizes, N. W. Kok; Doris Wookey Prize, R. N. [illegible].
Fellowship
Turpin and Durrant prizes, P. J. [illegible].

## Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Lieutenant-General Sir John Stanier to be Commander-in-chief United Kingdom Land Forces in April, in succession to General Sir Timothy Creasey, who is to retire.
Dr Graham Zellick, Reader in Law at London University (Queen Mary College), to be editor of *Public Law* in succession to Professor J. A. G. Griffith.

## Forthcoming marriages

**Mr E. R. G. Clarke and Miss S. L. Elias**
The engagement is announced between Graham, elder son of Mr and Mrs Trevor Clarke, Briar Wood House, Briar Hill, Purley, Surrey, and Sarina, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs J. B. D. Elias, Pollensa, Mallorca.

**Mr S. E. B. Clowes and Miss N. A. A. Wallace**
The engagement is announced between Simon, eldest son of Mr and Mrs William Clowes, of Wappenham Manor, Towcester, and Nicola, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Malcolm Wallace, of Lochryan, Stranraer.

**Mr J. J. M. Hanratty and Miss K. A. Le Blanc Smith**
The engagement is announced between John Joseph Michael, second son of Dr and Mrs J. F. Hanratty, of Westminster Gardens, London, SW1, and Krista Anne, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs S. R. Le Blanc Smith, of Alburgh, Norfolk.

**Mr P. Freund and Miss P. M. English**
The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mr and Mrs C. L. L. Freund, of Broadstairs, Kent, and Philippa, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs P. M. English, of Chislehurst, Kent.

## Marriage

**Mr V. S. Melleney and Miss Q. M. Rankin**
The marriage took place on January 27, 1981, in London, between Mr Victor Stefan Melleney, son of Mr and Mrs George Victor Melleney, of Johannesburg, and Miss Qona Mary Rankin, daughter of Mr Felix Rankin and Mrs Coralie Rankin.

## Luncheons

**HM Government**
The Hon Nicholas Ridley, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a luncheon held at Lancaster House yesterday in honour of the Chief Minister of the Turks and Caicos Islands, Mr Norman Saunders.

**Institute of Export**
The Institute of Export held a luncheon at Goldsmiths' Hall yesterday. Lord Luke, president, presided. The principal guests were Lord Carrington, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, the Ambassador of The Netherlands, Sir John Buckley, Sir Terence Beckett, Mr Malcolm Wilcox and Mr Frank O. Dunphy, chairman of the council of the institute.

## Receptions

**College of Speech Therapists**
Sir Sigmund Sternberg, Vice-President of the College of Speech Therapists, and Lady Sternberg, held a reception at the Reform Club yesterday to mark the publication of *Living After a Stroke* by Miss Diana Law. Miss Miriam Hall, Chairman of the College of Speech Therapists, spoke and the guests included Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services.

**Institute of Management Services**
Sir Monty Finniston, president, and Mr Harold Williams, chairman, were hosts at a reception held at the Martini Terrace, yesterday, to mark the fortieth anniversary of the Institute of Management Services. Among the guests were:
Lord Lloyd of Kilgerran, Lord Wigoder, [illegible]

**National Water Council**
The Chairman of the National Water Council, Sir Robert Marshall, was host at a reception at the Institution of Civil Engineers last night after the conference held earlier to mark the opening of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade. The guests included:
The Lord Privy Seal Sir Ian Gilmour, [illegible], Assistant Secretary-General, United Nations Development Programme, [illegible], World Bank, the Minister of Overseas Development, Mr Neil Marten, and representatives of British companies concerned with water projects overseas.

## Dinners

**Jas Hennessy and Co, Cognac**
The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, with the Sheriffs and their ladies, were present at a dinner given at the Mansion House yesterday by Jas Hennessy and Co, Cognac. The speakers were Le Comte Alain de Pracomtal, the Lord Mayor and Mr Edward Heath, MP.

**Finance Houses Association**
Mr John N. Little, chairman of the Finance Houses Association, presided at the annual dinner held at the Savoy Hotel last night. Mr John Biffen, MP, and Sir Anthony Lloyd were the principal guests. Among those present were:
[illegible]

**Britain-Australia Society**
The Britain-Australia Society held their annual dinner at Grosvenor House last night to celebrate Australia Day (January 26). Viscount Slim presided. Sir Donald Tebbit, Sir Phillip Lynch, Australian Minister for Industry and Commerce, and the High Commissioner for Australia were the speakers. Among the guests were:
[illegible] Aileen Viscountess Slim, Viscountess Slim, Sir Ronald Swayne, Lady Tebbit, the Dean of Melbourne and the Agents General for the Australian States and their ladies.

**County Surveyors' Society**
Sir Peter Baldwin was guest of honour at the annual dinner of the County Surveyors' Society which was held at the Royal Automobile Club last night. Mr E. W. Jinks, president, county surveyor of Mid Glamorgan County Council, was in the chair. Others present included:
Sir Gervas Walker, Sir Peter Baldwin, County Councillor J. Smart, County Councillor V. Hart, members and officers of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities and the Association of County Councils, officials of the Department of Transport and presidents of professional institutions and local authority officers' associations.

**Company of Tobacco Pipe Makers and Tobacco Blenders**
The company of Tobacco Pipe Makers and Tobacco Blenders held a dinner at Clothworkers' Hall last night for the livery and their guests. Sir Richard Powell was the principal guest and speaker. Mr Stephen Preedy and the Master, Mr G. R. Christophersen, also spoke.

**Loriners' Company**
At a livery dinner of the Loriners' Company held at Vintners' Hall last night the newly installed Master, Mr Ernest E. Beckett, presided, assisted by Mr William H. Wylie-Harris, Upper Warden, and Mr Norman Freedman, Under Warden. The Master of the *Chartered Surveyors' Company*, Mr Harry Bollom and Lord Alexander of Potterhill were the other speakers. Alderman Francis McWilliams and the Masters of the Painters Stainers' and Spectacle Makers' Companies were also present.

## Service dinner

**Headquarters Royal Air Force Germany**
Headquarters RAF Germany Officers' Mess held a ladies' guest night yesterday to mark the occasion of the departure of Sir Oliver Wright, HM Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, and Air Marshal Sir Peter Terry, RAF, Commander 2 ATAF and C in C RAF Germany. Group Captain V. B. Kendrick, RAF, was in the chair.

# Council may sell art treasures to save music education from cuts

By Martin Huckerby
Music Reporter

Leicestershire County Council may sell paintings from its collection and make substantial cuts in its music education service if an appeal cannot raise enough money to fill the gap caused by spending cuts.

The county has a particularly fine art collection, which includes works by Paul Nash, Henry Moore, Wyndham Lewis and Augustus John, and Mr Andrew Fairbairn, the director of education, said some of them would certainly have to be sold if the appeal was unsuccessful.

Leicestershire is renowned for its schools music, but the cuts required in education spending on music and the arts, amounting to £110,000 out of a budget of £500,000, could mean that the county youth orchestras would no longer be viable.

The cuts would also mean a reduction of nearly a third in the number of peripatetic teachers of music, dance and drama, and put at risk the Leicester School of Music and the county drama workshop.

Mr Fairbairn said an appeal had been launched which it was hoped would raise £300,000. One pound from each person in the county would be more than enough to reach the target. The money would be invested to bring in an income which would bridge the gap left by the cuts.

The appeal is supported by such artistic figures as Sir William Walton, Sir Adrian Boult, Sir Peter Hall, Dame Ninette de Valois, Donald Sinden and Sir Michael Tippett.

Even if the appeal is successful, the county will still charge £30 a year to pay for transport, taking children each Saturday to play in Leicestershire's 10 school orchestras and bands, but the appeal would avoid fees having to be charged for instrument tuition.



Photograph by Brian Harris

Looking to the future: A commemorative plaque covering a time capsule containing artifacts spanning 10,000 years being unveiled yesterday by Sir Horace Cutler (right), leader of the Greater London Council. The plaque in Jubilee Gardens on the South Bank was donated by the British Steel Corporation's Stainless Steel Division. Mr Raymond Douglas, its director, is with Sir Horace at the unveiling. It marks the centre of the Dome of Discovery which was built for the Festival of Britain, and its unveiling celebrates the thirtieth anniversary of the Festival, the 20 years to the next millennium in January, 2001, and the launching of the United Nations Water Decade. The event was organized by the World Association for Celebrating Year 2000.

# Prize double for play

By Our Theatre Reporter

Ronald Harwood's play *The Dresser*, which ended a run of nine months in the West End earlier this month, yesterday received *The New Standard* award for the best play of 1980, and one of its stars, Tom Courtenay, won the prize for best performance of the year by an actor. Michael Frayn's *Make and Break* was pronounced best comedy, and Stephen Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd* the best musical.

Judi Dench, in *Juno and the Paycock*, and Frances de la Tour, in *Duet for One*, shared the award for best performance by an actress, while the award for best director went to Trevor Nunn and John Caird for *Nicholas Nickleby*. Paul Kember was named most promising playwright for *Not Quite Jerusalem*.

## Circus comes to town

The Broadway musical, *Barnum*, which has been playing in New York since early last year, is to open at the London Palladium on June 11 with Michael Crawford in the role of the circus proprietor, Phineas T. Barnum.

Archaeology

# Loch Tay: Drowned ancient homes

By Ronald Faux

Winter sunshine filters to the bed of Loch Tay in a faint golden light. The water is still and intensely cold, a freezing blanket pressing against my diving suit. Rising from the bed of the loch is a mound of stones, a dome-shaped reef which 2,500 years ago was home to a community of ancient Britons.

Nicholas Dixon's breathing apparatus sends out a signal of silver bubbles. He is holding a small piece of fern which he rubs in his fingers. The fern turns to powder and floats away. That piece of vegetation probably first saw daylight in the late Bronze Age. There are other subtle signs of ancient life. A stone with a hole worn in the centre, probably a weight for a fishing net; a row of wooden stakes hammered into the bed of the loch, and a worn post probably used for tethering animals.

We move to the edge of the sunken site where the loch bed falls away into brown darkness. Movement is awkward. Fins are not allowed for fear of stirring the silt and damaging the ancient remains. I stumble along holding a large rock that prevents me rising to the surface and holds me on the loch floor.

The mound is one of 17 crannogs in Loch Tay which underwater archaeologists from St Andrews University intend to examine.

Crannogs were artificial islands built in the loch as defended farmsteads on which the settlers could keep themselves and their cattle safe from wolves, bears, sheep-stealers, reevers and any other predators. They floated out timber rafts that were sunk in position, rather like latterday oil platforms, with a weight of earth, stones and bushwood. An easily defended gangway linked the island with the shore.

Mr Dixon, who is directing the work, later explained that the crannogs in Loch Tay were discovered after a sailor reported that the keel of his boat had struck strange reefs near the shore. An underwater investigation began and a picture of the man-made islands was built up from material excavated.

Mr Dixon said: "They represent layers of history from the Bronze Age right up to medieval times. As one crannog settled into the water and sank, another was built on top so they represent probably the longest single type of site used in Scotland".

Priory Island in Loch Tay is about 100 metres across and has trees growing on it, but it began life as a crannog. It is thought there may be more than 500 of the settlements around the shores of a number of Scottish lochs with artifacts perfectly preserved by the peaty water, free from the destructive effects of oxygen and bacteria.

"We know from a variety of dung, bones and teeth what animals were kept there and from seeds and pollen what they were fed. A spindle whorl has been recovered showing that wool was spun there and a number of wooden implements suggest some leatherwork. There is a lot of cereal pollen and insect larvae which help to add to our knowledge of exactly how people lived on these artificial islands", Mr Dixon said.

The investigation is claimed as the first of its kind. It is a preliminary excavation and another three years' work remain to be done delving through the submerged layers.

"It is better to do the work underwater. Immediately a site is drained everything begins to decay as the air hits it and the layers are subjected to a crushing effect. Underwater, one man can move a heavy beam of timber alone without causing disturbance or damage", he said.

The crannog sites are peculiar to Scotland and Ireland. They are further important because little was known of the transition period of Scottish history between the late Bronze Age and the Iron Age. It was an obscure moment in the Scottish archaeological record which the watery remains of the crannogs should help to illuminate.

## Today's engagements

Symposium: The WDR and the Arbeiterfilm, preceded by screening of an Arbeiterfilm not in NFT season, Goethe Institute, Princes Gate, 7.

Exhibitions: Drawing technique and purpose, Print Room Galleries, Victoria and Albert Museum, 10 to 5.50; Montegufoni by John Piper, Maclean Gallery, St George Street, Hanover Square, 10 to 5.30; New works by Carl Andre, Anthony d'Offay Gallery, Dering Street, New Bond Street, 10 to 5.30; Tate and Lyle collection of sugar dredgers, Gerrard's, Regent Street, 9 to 5.30.

Talks: Violence in the poem, Wes Magee, The Poetry Society, Earls Court Square, 7.30; Emigration and the background to the discontent: The inter/post war years, Harlesden Library, Craven Park Road, 7; The raising of the Mary Rose, Margaret Rule, Royal Society of Arts, John Adam Street, 6; Idoma Art—Nigeria, Mrs Sidney Kasfar, Africa Centre, King Street, 6.30.

Lunchtime music: Dorothy Maddison, soprano, Ellen Porter, piano, and Susan Heath-Pinder, organ, St Olave, 1.05; Organ recital by Richard Townend, St Margaret Lothbury, 1.10; Hilary Bendy, piano, Holy Sepulchre, 1.15; Andrew Ball, piano, St Martin-within-Ludgate, 1.15.

Memorial Requiem Mass: High Commissioner for Malta, Westminster Cathedral, 11.15.

## Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before tax paid):

Cheetham, Mr Hugh Southworth, of Colemans Hatch, Sussex .. £174,884
Constantine, Gladys Annetta, of Bournemouth, Dorset .. £243,597
Maplethorpe, Mr Dennis, of Boston Lincolnshire .. .. £211,894
Neighbour, Mr Thomas Leslie, of Tring, Hertfordshire .. £163,232
Simmons, Mr James, of Rotherham, South Yorkshire, haulage proprietor .. .. £142,866
Thorp, Mr Leslie Burton, of Colchester, Essex .. .. £130,425
Young, Mr Edward Patrick, of Kensington .. .. £273,110

## Appeal tribunal

Mr Justice Browne-Wilkinson has been appointed a judge of the Employment Appeal Tribunal.

## University news

**Oxford**
Awards:
Jane Willis Kirkaldy Prize, H. W. Dorkins, Wolfson College; 1980 Sara Norton Essay Prize, D. B. Hirsch, Christ Church; Weldon Memorial Prize, Professor R. M. May, department of biology, Princeton; Patrick Mallam Memorial Prize in clinical medicine, Mary J. L. Ryan, St Hilda's College.
MERTON COLLEGE — Official fellowship as tutor in physics, from September 1: J. J. Binney, MA, D Phil, visiting assistant professor, department of astrophysical sciences, Princeton.

**London**
Sir Peter Medawar, FRS, has been appointed president of the Royal Postgraduate Medical School, in succession to the Duke of Edinburgh.

**Keele**
Grants
Medical Research Council: £42,135 To Dr P. Hammond for three years on neurophysiological investigation of visual cortical sensitivity to textured backgrounds and to relative motion.
Department of Health and Social Security: £52,837 To Professor O. Stevenson for two years on a study of the impact on key persons, of the discharge of 65 young people in care of Sandwell, from community homes with education on the premises.

**Bath**
Appointments
Lecturer: A. S. Korslake, BA, Humanities and social sciences.
Grants
Plessey Electronic Systems: £32,000 to Dr R. J. Holbeche for work on the development of time compression multiplexing techniques for extensive area coverage.
Ministry of Defence: Two sums of £73,250 to Professor H. O. Berktay and Dr R. L. Cloet for research into signal processing techniques for high resolution sonar information and for research into short-range, high-resolution sonars.

**Durham**
Appointment
Reader: A. T. H. Smith, LLB, LLM (Law).
Grants
Medical Research Council: £24,700 to Dr J. D. Horton to investigate the role of the thymus in major histocompatability complex restriction of T lymphocyte reactivity: A phylogenetic approach.
Natural Environment Research Council: £33,698 to Professor M. H. P. Bott to investigate crustal structure across the north-western Rockall Continental margin and beneath the Iceland-Faeroe ridge.
Arthritis and Rheumatism Council: £21,470 to Professor G. R. Higginson to investigate mechanical properties of articular cartilage.

## Church news

Appointments

The Rev D. A. M. Becton, Vicar of St Augustine, Rush Green, Romford, diocese of Chelmsford, to be Vicar of Coggeshall with Markshall, same diocese.

The Rev P. Birt, curate at Whiteshill, diocese of Gloucester, to be priest in charge of Ruardean, same diocese.

The Rev C. J. Bradley, Vicar of Shawbury, diocese of Lichfield, to be also priest in charge of Stanton upon Hine Heath, same diocese.

The Rev J. N. Chubb, Vicar of Brixworth with Holcot, diocese of Peterborough, to be Vicar of St James, Hampton Hill, diocese of London.

The Rev P. D. Cooper, curate of Christchurch, diocese of Winchester, to be priest in charge of St Marks, Southampton, same diocese.

The Rev C. R. Cornwell, Vicar of Hadley, diocese of Lichfield, to be domestic chaplain to the Bishop of Lichfield and sub-chanter of the Cathedral Church of Lichfield, same diocese.

Canon J. H. R. De Sausmarez, Vicar of St Peter-in-Thanet, Broadstairs, Rural Dean of Thanet and an honorary canon of Canterbury Cathedral, diocese of Canterbury, to be also residentiary canon of Canterbury Cathedral.

The Rev D. G. Hatter, Vicar of St Mark, Mansfield, diocese of Southwell, to be Vicar of St Mary, Carlton-on-Trent, and All Saints, Sutton-on-Trent and priest in charge of St Matthew, Normanton-on-Trent, and St Wilfrid, Marnham, same diocese.

Preb E. C. C. Hill, retired, to be prebendary emeritus in the diocese of Lichfield.

The Rev B. J. Hopkinson, team Vicar in the Marlborough Team Ministry and Rural Dean of Marlborough, diocese of Salisbury, to be team rector of Wimborne Minister and Holt St James Team Ministry, same diocese.

Preb J. W. Jackson, retired, to be prebendary emeritus in the diocese of Lichfield.

The Rev K. E. Jones, curate of Buckhurst Hill, diocese of Chelmsford, to be team Vicar in the major parish of Buckhurst Hill, with special responsibility for St Stephens and St Elisabeth's, same diocese.

The Rev N. C. Jones, Rector of Longnewton with Elton, and Rural Dean of Stockton, diocese of Durham, to be also honorary canon of Durham Cathedral.

The Rev M. R. Kemp, Vicar of St Timothy's, Crookes, Sheffield, diocese of Sheffield to be Vicar of St Chad, Norton Woodseats, Sheffield, same diocese.

The Rev A. Louglin, Vicar of Kinson and also non-residentiary canon of Salisbury Cathedral, to be canon emeritus upon his retirement.

The Rev B. G. Moore, Vicar of St Barnabas, Morecambe, diocese of Blackburn, to be Rector of St Wilfrids, Standish, same diocese.

The Rev M. A. Palce, Vicar of Misterton with West Stockwith, diocese of Southwell, to be priest in charge of Olveston, Elberton, Aust and Littleton-on-Severn, diocese of Bristol.

The Rev S. R. Parish, curate of Christ Church, Chadderton, diocese of Manchester, to be team Vicar in the Chell team Ministry, diocese of Lichfield.

The Rev J. D. D. Porter, Vicar of Rickerscote, diocese of Lichfield, to be priest in charge of Whitemore Mace and Chapel Chorlton, same diocese.

The Rev A. G. Purser, curate at Christ Church, Beckenham, diocese of Rochester, to be team Vicar in the major parish of Barking with special responsibility for Christ Church, Thames View, diocese of Chelmsford.

The Rev A. J. J. Reeves, Rector of Barby and Vicar of Kilsby, diocese of Peterborough, to be Vicar of Warmington, same diocese.

The Rev S. W. Smerdon, curate at St Paul's, Bournemouth, diocese of Winchester, to be priest in charge of Luccombe, diocese of Bath and Wells.

The Rev B. R. Spence, Vicar of Warnham, diocese of Chichester, to be Vicar of St Mary's, East Grinstead, same diocese.

Canon F. C. Tindall, non-residentiary canon of Salisbury Cathedral, to be canon emeritus.

The Rev P. Townsend, priest in charge of All Saints, Newton Hall, Durham, diocese of Durham, to be Vicar of St Luke's, Hartlepool, same diocese.

The Rev Dr R. Williams, lecturer in patristics at Cambridge University, diocese of Ely to be also canon Theologian of Leicester Cathedral.

Canon A. K. Wright, Vicar of St Mary, Ashford diocese of Canterbury, to be Rector of Barham with Bishopsbourne and Kingston, same diocese.

Retirements and resignations

The Rev F. M. Argyle, Rector of Aynho with Newbottle and Charlton, diocese of Peterborough, to resign, Feb 28.

The Rev A. Derbyshire, Rector of Merrow, diocese of Guildford, to resign, April 30.

The Rev C. V. E. Francis, Rector of Ditcheat with East Pennard with Pylle, diocese of Bath and Wells, is to retire.

The Rev A. Louglin, Vicar of Kinson and also non-residentiary canon of Salisbury Cathedral, is to retire on April 30.

Canon D. A. J. Stevens, Vicar of Staverton with Helidon, diocese of Peterborough, to resign on Feb 9.



## 25 years ago

From The Times of Friday, Jan 27, 1956

### Jamming of broadcasts

Great Britain has, we think, neither in war nor in peace ever yet jammed the broadcasts of any other nation. Her moral strength has been great in consequence. She has been respected internationally as a guardian of the aether and has been acknowledged in broadcasting matters as a leader of far greater importance than her position as a power warranted. She disdained Mussolini's efforts before the war, Hitler's efforts during the war, and Stalin's efforts after the war to defeat her in the battle of words. Lies have been answered by truth; and other means found to combat any subversive messages. Other nations jammed unwelcome matter, but not Britain. Russia's vast post-war jamming operation has been more than once stigmatized as a deplorable and retrograde operation born of a basic insecurity in the face of liberty of expression. Britain's strength has so far resided in the way her citizens—no matter where in the Commonwealth or Empire they may be and regardless of the stresses or strains to which they are being subjected—are free to listen or not as they wish to whatever any other country decides to say to them.

Science report

# Physics: New light on atomic nucleus

From David Dickson
Washington

United States nuclear physicists, working with colleagues in Canada and the Federal Republic of Germany, may have found evidence of a new form of nuclear matter that could make it necessary to revise fundamental ideas about the structure of the atomic nucleus.

As conventionally understood, the nucleus of the atom is made up from smaller particles called baryons, usually protons and neutrons. Theoretical physicists have developed laws that predict the behaviour of such particles.

Those laws may have to be revised after experiments carried out at the University of California's Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, which involved studying the interactions between nuclei when they collide at energies approaching the speed of light. The experiments showed fast-moving secondary fragments from the collision that appeared to be far more ready to collide with nuclei of other atoms than the particles in the primary beam itself.

"If we look at our experiments in terms of traditional physical laws governing baryons, our results are just impossible", one of the research workers who made the discovery, Yasha J. Karant, said. "To explain our work we need something new."

The physicists set out to discover whether they could confirm an apparent incompatibility that had been persistently reported in cosmic ray studies since 1954, but has received little recognition because of the relative lack of statistical certainty.

Their experiments used a beam of artificial cosmic rays, in one instance using nuclei from the oxygen atom, in the other from iron. The nuclei were accelerated to an energy of 2 gev, thereby approaching the speed of light, inside two coupled particle accelerators.

The accelerated beams were then directed at photographic plates, leaving images through their reaction with the emulsion that can be studied under a microscope. The images showed the nuclei colliding with atoms in the emulsion and producing secondary nuclear fragments, whose subsequent paths were then measured.

According to a report published in a recent issue of *Physical Review Letters*, the study of how such interactions took place provided good statistical evidence that over the first few centimetres from a nuclear interaction the projectile fragments showed significantly shorter mean free paths, the distance between collisions, than the paths derived for normal beams carrying the same charge.

At distances larger than three centimetres from the emission point the lengths of the mean free paths reverted to those that would be expected from normal beams.

According to the physicists, the data are incompatible with a homogeneous lowering of the length of the mean free path, and require among the projectile fragments at least one component with an unexpectedly high reaction cross-section.

"We are not aware of explanations within the framework of conventional nuclear physics for the results of this experiment", they write. They add that all conceivable sources of bias in scanning were almost eliminated by the use of standard methods of observation, measurement and data reduction. Exceptional events were ruled out by the normal patterns of target fragmentation.

"It is as though we have been seeing nuclei that are many times larger than we would expect", Dr Harry Heckman, leader of the team that carried out the experiments says. "It is entirely possible that we are not witnessing the collisions of ordinary nuclei at all. We are seeing strange behaviour among the highest energy fragments that stream from a nuclear collision, and this is very unexpected."

The physicists, four from LBL, one from the Canadian National Research Council, and a sixth from the Philipps University in Germany, are carrying out further experiments to elucidate the characteristics of the short mean-free-path components of the interactions. They are also hoping for a theoretical breakthrough to hlp to explain their results. "It would be fantastic if we have seen some new form of highly reactive matter", Dr Heckman says.

There are several theoretical approaches that might explain why the particular fragments collide more often than traditional nuclei. One, for example, is to imagine that atomic nuclei are not simply made from protons and neutrons, but have some other component.

"Physicists now believe that baryons are made from smaller particles called quarks. In my approach a number of baryons have given up their identity and formed a larger quark bundle. One of the objects of our current experiments is to find out if this approach, or any of the others, is the right one", Dr Karant says.

Source: *Physical Review Letters*, September 29, 1980 (vol 45, No 13).

# OBITUARY

## MISS CONSTANCE APPLEBEE

### Pioneer in women's hockey

Miss Constance Applebee, who introduced women's field hockey into the United States in 1901, has died in Hampshire, at the age of 107.

Born on June 4, 1873, at Chigwell, Essex, Miss Applebee was delicate. She did not go to school but was taught Greek by a neighbour and was encouraged to go on with her studies. Primarily to improve her health, she became interested in physical education and eventually trained at the British College of Physical Education in London where she gained a diploma.

In the summer of 1901 this dynamic young woman went to Harvard University, United States, for a year's course in "track" to study under Dr Dudley Sargent. She proved a star pupil. One rainy afternoon Miss Applebee, the director of physical education of Vassar College, Dr Sargent and Dr. Tait Mackenzie were discussing the merits of American and English women athletes. Miss Applebee suggested field hockey as a measure, and was amazed to find that none of her companions understood or knew of the sport.

The next afternoon Miss Applebee produced the first women's hockey game in the United States, played with a collection of ice hockey and shinty sticks, an indoor baseball and chalk lines in a concrete yard outside Harvard University gymnasium.

She remained in the United States and in 1904 was appointed director of outdoor sports at Bryn Mawr College, a post she held until 1928. In 1923 she established a hockey camp at Mt Pocono, Pennsylvania, and brought out coaches from England. This arrangement still exists today.

She was a woman of great purpose whom no situation defeated. On the occasion of a visit of the Queen of the Belgians in 1919 to Bryn Mawr the demonstration game of hockey put on for the royal visitor began late as the light was fading. The ball was soon lost and a crisis loomed, but "the Apple" rushed onto the field. "You silly asses," she cried, "lift your great feet and play! Act as if you had the ball."

Until 1965 Miss Applebee divided her time between England and the United States. In 1976, aged 94, she attended the International Federation of Women's Hockey Associations' conference and tournament in West Germany and was appointed an honorary life member (overseas) of the All-England Women's Hockey Association.

She was also interested in elderly people, and among the many charities she supported were clubs and homes for the elderly. She had a strong belief in Christian day to day living and the lessons of give and take, working with others, initiative, concentration, endurance, sportsmanship, friendship, fun and fitness.

For the past five or six years she lived alone, getting about her house and garden in an electric chair. She talked with a strong voice, and almost up to the end took an interest in what was going on in the world, though her sight was failing. She was a truly remarkable woman.

## SIR JOHN NICOLL

Sir Robert Black writes:—

Friends of John Nicoll may, like myself, have felt that the obituary notice which appeared in *The Times* on Saturday did him less than justice. I served with John Nicoll in Trinidad, and followed him, much later, in post, first at Hongkong and then at Singapore; and I had the privilege of his friendship for many years. I saw what he had achieved at first hand.

Nicoll always penetrated to the heart of a problem and, in formulating policy, was not to be deflected from keeping the real issues in his sights. As, in addition, he had the gift of imaginative planning, it is not surprising that the results of his work are still to be seen, for instance, in Singapore, where he served 25 years ago.

At a time when the Crown Colony was developing industrially as well as commercially, while involved in the long-drawn-out Malayan emergency campaign against the communists, Nicoll grasped the nettle of the increasing pressure for self-government with typical firmness and perception.

His direction was a most important factor in the setting up, in 1955, of the new Constitution to provide for an elected government, leading to the self-government and eventual independence of a State which has established a remarkable record of political stability and economic prosperity.

Nicoll was a man of firm integrity, who was uncompromising where he suspected corruption and impatient where he suspected inefficiency. Although his downright comments sometimes led to accusations of intolerance, John Nicoll, behind an austere and sometimes remote manner, was, in fact, a shy, sensitive and kindly man, and he was a loyal friend. Those who knew him well saw him to be a distinguished servant of the Crown.

## VISCOUNT AMORY

J. C. P. writes:

Lord Amory's life was divided between so many separate compartments that it is difficult for any one person to do justice to them all. For he kept each compartment separate, and those who knew him in the context of one often knew surprisingly little of the others.

One such compartment was kept for the young and the sea. It was understandable that the writer of your quite excellent obituary might not have known much of that compartment.

In 1960 Lord Amory started the trust which was later to be known as the London Sailing Project. It has three large boats based at Gosport which are well known to those who sail from there, and much further afield. At the age of 80 he was still to be seen in one or other of the boats, for, even when he was then so lame, he still enjoyed, whenever he could, seeing the boats and those who sailed in them.

In the past 20 years those boats and their predecessors have taken to sea over 5,000 boys from schools, community homes, boys' clubs, Scout groups, Sea Cadet units, and other youth organizations. Most of them had never been to sea before. Already many are themselves now taking charge of the boats.

Lord Amory made possible for those boys something which otherwise in all probability they would never have known. It enabled them to learn about themselves and their fellows those things which in a strange way only the sea can teach.

They learned also the importance of responsibility, team work, tolerance and integrity. Those above all were the qualities which he got the young to understand. Many of them would write to him afterwards to thank him. None who wrote ever failed to get a reply. The instinctive affection for the man who made it all possible was overwhelming.

## ADMIRAL R. E. GODFROY

R.M.D. writes:

As one who was deeply involved in the events fairly described in your obituary of Admiral R. E. Godfroy I feel that in justice to his memory some further comment is permissible.

So swiftly do events fade into history that the enormous value of the peaceful immobilization of the French fleet in Alexandria is doubtless forgotten, but at the time it was realized to be of vital importance. Had the negotiations failed there would have been a holocaust in Alexandria harbour, heavy loss of life military and civilian and creation of a bitterness amongst the French surpassing even that over Mers-el-Kebir. That this did not occur was due to the temperate wisdom but iron firmness of Admiral of the Fleet Viscount Cunningham (Admiral Sir Andrew at that time) coupled with the known complete integrity of Admiral Godfroy. The heart of the latter was entirely with the British (indeed his ships were barely back in harbour from active bombardment operations in company with the Mediterranean Fleet on the North African coast) but he felt that his loyalty to the French Government must come first.

This view was highly controversial and in Admiral Cunningham's opinion wrongheaded and even obstinate but Godfroy was a man of highest principle and loyalty to what he believed to be right. This was appreciated and did much to make a solution possible. It seems proper that this should go on record at the time of his death.

## MR JACK KNIGHTS

Mr Jack Knights, one of Britain's foremost yachtsmen and yachting journalists, died at his home in Cowes on January 26. He was 51.

Knights lived for yachting, and was seldom far from the water, or, better still, was usually on it. His love of boats began at an early age in Suffolk, and his skill in a racing dinghy made him a valued member and officer of the Cambridge University Cruising Club.

After graduating he spent a short time as an advertising copywriter in America, and then returned to London, combining copywriting with freelance journalism. Throughout his 20s and 30s he raced a variety of small boats, winning many championships in national and international classes.

There is little doubt that if he had specialized in any one class he would have achieved world ranking, but Knights never kept a boat long enough to become tired of it. The grass was always greener somewhere else, and both boats and fast cars were acquired and disposed of in quick succession.

His appointment as yachting correspondent of the *Daily Express* allowed him to become a full-time yachting writer and his output was prodigious. He wrote several yachting books, and was in demand as a columnist in British and foreign magazines.

He would not suffer fools or pomposity, and he delighted in poking fun at authority. He was often critical of the yachting establishment, and sometimes unwisely pursued lost causes. But usually his wit and gift for persuasive argument would win over those he might have offended.

Mr R. F. Audsley, chairman of Tootal Ltd, died on January 17, at the age of 55. Audsley had joined English Sewing Cotton Company Ltd (now part of Tootal) as a Cambridge graduate and was appointed to the board in 1965. In 1976 he was appointed managing director and in June 1979, chairman.

He leaves a widow, son and daughter.

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

Job losses show no sign of easing, page 18

Alberta set to turn off the taps, page 19

■ **Stock markets**
FT Ind 467.4, up 5.5
FT Gilts 69.04, up 0.18

■ **Sterling**
$2.40475, down 118 pts
Index 81.2, up 0.2

■ **Dollar**
Index 88.0, up 0.2
DM2.0720, up 178 pts

■ **Gold**
$517.50, down $12

■ **Money**
3 mth sterling 14 1/16-13 15/16
3 mth Euro $ 18 3/16-18 1/16
6 mth Euro $ 17 1/16-17 3/16

## IN BRIEF

### Curbs on commodities and gold in Bahrain

Bahrain, whose relatively liberal approach to offshore *business has made it the* financial centre of the Gulf, is to introduce tighter controls on gold and commodity brokers.

Mr Ibrahim Abdul-Karim, Bahrain's finance minister, said yesterday that the new regulations could include capital requirements, financial guarantees *from head offices, and the* quality of staff.

The new regulations will be drawn up and enforced by the Bahrain Monetary Agency, the island state's central bank. Its powers can be extended to all financial institutions, although so far they have mainly applied only to banks.

In future, commodity brokers will have to be approved by the agency, and existing companies will have to meet the same requirements.

### ATV diversification

ATV, *the Midlands* commercial television company, will lodge proposals to diversify its shareholdings by the end of the week. The company, which is owned by Lord Grade's ACC, has been told by the Independent Broadcasting Authority to reduce its shareholding to 51 per cent and find a new name in order to retain its franchise.

### £10m investment trust

New Darien Oil Trust, a £10m investment trust is to come to the market next month through an offer for subscription of 10 million shares at 100p. Clients of Phillips & Drew, brokers to the issue, will apply for five million shares.

*Financial Editor*, page 19

### Chinese accountancy

Coopers & Lybrand, the international accounting firm has been authorized to work in China under regulations introduced in November last year. It will be the first foreign accountancy group to do so.

### MFI profits cut

MFI, *the cut price* furniture retailer, saw its interim pretax profits cut by more than a third to £4.9m. This was despite a boost in sales from £56m to £90m, largely from the acquisition of the Status Discount chain last year.

Financial Editor, page 19

### £60m road savings

Savings of up to £60m a year for the United Kingdom road *transport* industry—lorries, vans, and buses—could be achieved by fitting unbreakable external mirrors, according to Spafax, the industrial components group.

### Italian steel posts

The Italian Goverment has *begun to tackle the crisis in the* public sector steel industry by appointing Signor Mario Costa as chairman, and Signor Sergio Magliola as managing director, of Italsider, Italy's biggest steelmaker.

### Wall Street higher

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 10.58 points up at 949.49. The $-SDR was 1.25846. The £ was 0.521209.

# Industry outlook still bleak despite slowdown of recession

Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

Prospects for manufacturing industry continue to be very bleak, according to the Confederation of British Industry's interpretation yesterday of its latest business trends survey.

Mr James Cleminson, chairman of the CBI's economic situation committee, said: "Our only consolation from the present survey is that things are getting worse more slowly".

The survey confirms that a definite easing in the rate of decline has occurred in the last few months.

However, Mr Cleminson said that company orders, output and employment were all worse than they were when the last survey—described as the "blackest ever"—was carried out in October. The position is expected to deteriorate further during the next quarter.

CBI leaders are still trying to convince government ministers of the damage which the high sterling exchange rate is causing to industry. They are continuing to plead for a further cut in minimum lending rate. They take no comfort from the survey findings whic hshow that the proportion of manufacturers who are pessimistic about business prospects has dropped from 58 per cent in October to 33 per cent.

Investment continues to be "very weak indeed", said Mr Cleminson. Since there is an average delay of 12 months between authorization for investment and expenditure, the impact of the recession inevitably will continue well into 1982. The CBI forecasts a fall of 15 per cent in manufacturing investment during 1981, with the decline continuing at the same rate to the middle of 1982.

Uncertainty about demand and inadequate return on new investment are the two main reasons given by manufacturers for curbing their capital expenditure.

Mr Cleminson says it is not surprising that investment intentions remain at an extremely low level since real profitability (excluding North Sea oil business) is expected to fall *to 2 per cent or less during* 1981.

While some sectors have improved, order books generally are weak, with 75 per cent of manufacturers assessing their workload at below normal levels.

Mr Cleminson: investment still "very weak".

There has been no change in the 84 per cent of companies who report that they are working below capacity. This represents the highest incidence of below-capacity working since the survey was introduced in 1958. However it represents the first check to the rapid spread of under-utilization since July 1979.

While stocks are continuing to be reduced at a rapid rate, 32 per cent of companies still consider their stocks of finished goods to be more than adequate.

"I had hoped there might *have been a somewhat better* figure on destocking", Mr Cleminson said. "We must recognize that there are to be further sharp reductions in stock and that the bottom of the recession will not be signalled until this occurs."

Stock reductions are being *achieved through price cuts.* Many manufacturers are holding price increases well below the growth in costs, with a consequent squeeze on profitability. Export orders and deliveries have weakened but expectations for the next four months suggest smaller falls.

*Despite effectively static* export prices, 81 per cent of exporters still quote prices relative to those of overseas competitors as a constraint to new contracts.

# UK urged to sign computer convention

By Kenneth Owen
Technology Editor

The British Computer Society has called on the Government to declare its intention to be a *party to the Council of Europe's* "Convention on the protection of individuals with regard to automatic processing of personal data".

The council is due to open the convention for signature today. Norway, Sweden, Denmark and France have each enacted *legislation and are ready* to sign.

Austria, Germany and Luxembourg are in a position to sign and are considering their position. *The remaining countries,* including Britain, have not yet enacted legislation in this area.

The convention sets a basis for introducing parallel legislation throughout Europe to protect the privacy of personal information in the age of computer-based information systems.

The British Computer Society said that Britain had a well-deserved reputation in the development and application of computer technology. *But it* had fallen behind in establishing control and direction over the way personal information was used. This could inhibit the continued development of computing techniques in support of economic, social and political development.

"*In particular, there is an increasing amount of data flowing* between countries, and the United Kingdom must show itself willing and able to cooperate with its international partners in such activities", it said.

"We must be able to demon*strate to our European partners* that we are able to protect their data when it is handled in the United Kingdom."

The Government's Data Protection Committee had made recommendations on this in December 1978, but no action had been taken. "The initiative of the Council of Europe presents an opportunity for the United Kingdom to join the international movement for data protection, and the British Computer Society recommends that the United Kingdom declares its intention to sign the convention", the society said.

This would mean that controls would have to be introduced in the management of data by user organizations to *ensure its protection.* The society was ready to establish the necessary standards and to set up a national certification scheme to provide these controls.

# Mr Reagan signals big cut in taxes

From Frank Vogl
Washington, Jan 26

*Big tax cuts will be* announced by President Reagan in an economic policy message to the Congress on February 17 or 18, according to Mr Donald Regan, Secretary of the Treasury.

He said the Administration's economic strategy would consist of cutting taxes, *sharply* reducing public spending and securing stable monetary policies. It would be a "bold, innovative economic plan", he told the appropriations committee of the Senate today.

Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, *appeared to support the new* Administration's plans in testimony before the same committee today. He stressed that "I see no alternative to continued restraint of excessive money and credit growth if we are to break the inflationary momentum. If that momentum is not *broken*, interest rates will remain high indefinitely."

Mr Regan and Mr David Stockman, the director of the Office of Management, also stressed to the senators that the Administration intends to curb government regulation of business. As a first step the White House intends to eliminate oil price controls, a move that will *swiftly see a rise of about* 12 cents on a gallon of petrol from the present price of about $1.40.

Oil price controls are already being phased-out and they were due to end by September. Decontrol is seen as raising prices to the consumer to world market levels and so strengthening conservation, while at the same time offering better income incentives to domestic oil producers.

*Mr Regan asserted that the* Administration has no doubt at all that providing incentives to business and individuals to work harder will swiftly reduce inflation and secure economic growth.

To this end across-the-board business and individual tax cuts are planned. Capital gains taxes may be reduced and greater tax depreciation allowances for business are a certainty.

The President said across-the-board tax cuts were more effective than selective ones as the markets are far better in allocating resources than the government. He expected between one half and two thirds of the in*come tax cuts to go into savings* and that under consideration are plans to increase the amount of interest on savings that people can earn free of tax.

Mr Stockman said that current fiscal year government spending was running at 23.3 per cent of gross national product and the *Administration* was determined to reduce the level in the next few years to 20 per cent.

Mr Regan said the Budget would be balanced within two years, by the 1983 fiscal year, and that there would be a significant budget surplus in *four years. The Treasury said* today that the Budget deficit in December narrowed to $7,300m from $8,879m in November.

Mr Volcker gave warning that tax cuts not matched by spending cuts could prove to be highly inflationary. Mr Reagan said such precise matching was not contemplated, but that the Administration viewed tax cuts and spending cuts as part of a combined economic strategy with both being essen*tial to* restore American economic health.

I do not think we can sustain $60,000m (£25,000m) and $70,000m budget deficits year after year without ruining this country the President said.

Mr Stockman told the committee that the new programme of tax *cuts, spending cuts,* stable monetary policies and regulatory reform, would be announced clearly to send unambiguous signals throughout the United States and world economy of a major change in the principles and the framework of financial and economic policy.

The officials asserted that a close relationship was being forged between the administration and the Central Bank and *that fiscal policies would* fully support the anti-inflation policies of the Federal Reserve.

# Bank union says 8pc is 'derisory'

*By Donald Macintyre*
Labour Reporter

The threat of possible industrial action by 16,500 staff in Trustee Savings Bank branches and offices emerged yesterday when management angered union negotiators with an 8 per cent offer in response to a claim *of more than 20 per cent.*

Banking Insurance and Finance Union (BIFU) negotiators rejected the offer. Talks will be resumed on February 20 after a management board meeting the previous day to consider whether to improve on the 8 per cent.


Mr Leif Mills: Single-figure offer "just not on".

Last night, however, Mr William Whiteman, the union's assistant secretary with responsibility for TSB, where the *union has a large majority in* membership, said: "The offer is so derisory that although our normal recourse in such circumstances is to go to arbitration we would possibly have to consider industrial action."

The question however, of whether any proposal for *industrial action might be put to* members at TSB, which the union claims enjoyed an unaudited 9 per cent increase in pre-tax profits last year, would undoubtedly await the outcome of the resumed negotiations next month.

The talks come at a sensitive *time however, because the banking* unions are due to open talks on a closely similar claim with the Federation of London Clearing Bank Employers tomorrow.

Mr Leif Mills, general secretary of BIFU, which represents 70,000 of the 200,000 on *the staffs of the English clearing* banks, said last night that it would be "ludicrous" if the union was to receive a similar offer from the employers on Thursday.

Union officials fear privately, while acknowledging that they have no hard evidence, that there may have been informal contact between TSB, the *English clearing banks and the* Federation of Scottish Clearing Bank Employers, over this year's pay round.

Negotiations are due to open on February 17 with the Scottish banks, where it represents directly 14,000 of the 24,000 staff. The settlement date is February 21 at TSB and April 1 in the Scottish and English clearing banks.

Mr Mills said last night: "We hope very much that we *do not go through the charade* on Thursday of being made another single figure offer which frankly is just not on."

The claim at TSB also embraces a one-hour reduction in the working week to 35 hours, and a continuation of the company's Christmas bonus payment. The company said yesterday that it was prepared to concede the latter point but not a reduction in hours.

It believed its offer was a *reasonable one, given the* general economic climate, the financial objectives of the bank and the current level of increases in the public and private sector.

# Oilmen take a swing at the Royal and Ancient

The Royal and Ancient Golf Club, at St Andrews, Fife, has been included in an area licensed to Premier Consolidated Oilfields, an independent exploration company, to search for onshore oil and gas.

But the Royal and Ancient's golfers need be neither dis*mayed at the prospect of ten*-gallon hatted Texans invading their bunkers with theodolites and drilling gear nor secretly delighted at the prospect of a potential gusher on the 18th.

For a start, the exploration licence allows only very limited drilling—down to 350 metres—and is essentially confined to seismic work. The permission of landowners is required before any exploration, even if it is only testing the underlying geology from the surface, is permitted, and planning consents also have to be acquired from local authorities.

But *perhaps* more importantly, the St Andrews area is not the section of the licenced ground in which Premier is most interested. Its exploration experts reckon that the coast along the Firth of Forth is the most likely to posses the underlying anticline structure which stands the best chance of containing oil or gas. Another group already has a production licence to drill on the other side of the bay.

Exploration, *however*, is an unpredictable science and as a wag in the Department of Energy suggested, a green is the ideal place to site a rig—relatively flat, clear of obstruction, and with a hole already started.

Altogether eight onshore exploration licences were awarded by the Government. Among them are parts of North Yorkshire and Humberside, including some beautiful countryside on *the North Yorkshire moors and* the coast near Whitby.

Shell, Clyde Petroleum, Taylor Woodrow and Amoco are among the licence holders.

Interest in onshore exploration has increased greatly since British Gas discovered a second reservoir at Wytch Farm, Dorset, which has confirmed a field the size of smaller accumulations in the North Sea.

Even relatively small finds, can, at oil prices of $39 a barrel, prove commercial. The Royal and Ancient, however, and its golfers, can sleep easily.

**Nicholas Hirst**

# Call to ease HP controls on vehicles

By Roman Eisenstein

Mr John Little, chairman of *the Finance Houses Association,* last night called for a relaxation of credit controls on sales of cars. Since December 1973, buyers of private cars on hire purchase contracts have had to pay one third deposit and repay the debt within two years.

Speaking at the association's annual dinner, he said that "no clear public statement has ever been made on why private cars should be singled out for such extraordinary treatment".

*Mr Little suggested that term* controls on private cars could be amended to 25 per cent deposit with a three-year repayment. This would help the motor industry and car components manufacturers.

Mr Little, who is also chairman of Lloyds and Scottish, called for equal status for finance houses and banks under the 1979 Banking Act. While the Bank of England had said that the differences between *the two were merely based on* the range of facilities offered and not on financial standing or financial strength, "there has been evidence that the draftsmen of some recent legislation have read a different interpretation into the Act".

Mr Little said high interest rates were having particularly bad effects on small companies. He welcomed recent cuts in interest rates but said that fur*ther reductions were essential* before "real and lasting benefits" could be felt.

Pointing to official efforts to control the money supply, Mr Little said finance houses were in no way responsible for excessive growth.

# Mr Nassar may make Inveresk counterbid

By Michael Prest

Mr Edward Nassar, the international businessman, who holds 14 per cent of Inveresk the troubled papermakers said yesterday that he was considering a counterbid to the £7.1m offer from Georgia-Pacific Corporation, of Portland, Oregon, which makes and distributes forest products and has oil and natural gas interests.

Speaking from his home in Lausanne, Switzerland, Mr Nassar said that he was looking at three options: accepting the *Georgia-Pacific offer, keeping a* minority stake or increasing it, and bidding for the whole of Inveresk.

Georgia-Pacific's terms, revealed last week are shares in Georgia Pacific, cash or a combination, equivalent to 35 an Inveresk share. Mr Nassar said: "I *honestly think it is very* cheap." He complained that shareholders were being kept in the dark. "I feel we should be given much more information."

In 1979 Inveresk made a pretax profit of £526,000. But in the first half of last year it lost £1.6m, and a precondition of the *Georgia-Pacific offer* is that 1980 losses are not more than £7m.

Mr Nassar said: "I don't think it is as bad as that. They have got a new plant in Scotland which surely can be put right. The company is backed by a lot of property". In the *last accounts Inveresk's invest*ment properties were valued at £8.3m.

Mr Nassar, who has interests in five countries, suggested that the property interests could be separated from papermaking. He said: "If the papermaking were better managed, both parts could be profitable."

But Mr Nassar said that he was unlikely to make a move until he had seen the full offer document, due to be published *in a few weeks' time.* Mr Tom Corrigan, chairman of Inveresk, said he had heard nothing from Mr Nassar.

Georgia-Pacific sales in 1979 were *$5,200m (£2,157m)* proCapitalization is around $2,500m.

Mr Nassar is confident that he can raise the finance for a bid. But he emphasizes that discussions are still in the preliminary stage, and did not say where the money would come from.

# Chemical industry faces overtime ban

A move to ban overtime throughout the chemical industry to counter job cuts and plant closures came yesterday from members of the General and Municipal Workers Union.

The decision now goes to the union's national executive who are almost certain to give it their backing.

A two-day conference of delegates representing 100,000 chemical workers wants the union to seek talks with other unions in the industry to persuade them to follow their lead.

This could affect 340 chemical companies in all divisions from plastics to soap powders. *The largest employer is ICI,* which is already seeking substantial cutbacks in staff.

Mr David Warburton the union's national organiser for the industry, said members who took *industrial* action to resist enforced redundancies would get official backing.

He said many companies were *using the recession as an excuse* to cut deeper into the labour force.

# Dollar rises strongly in late trading

The dollar soared in late trading on the news that the United States government had ended oil price controls and announced tax and public spending cuts. Having been *steady against* the American currency for most of the day, the pound gave ground to close 118 points down at $2.40475.

But sterling's effective exchange rate index, measured against a basket of major currencies, ended the day up 0.2 at 81.2. This reflects the pound's strength against European currencies. In addition, sterling's late losses against the dollar may not have been fully accounted for at the time–the *index was calculated.*

Both the pound and the dollar gained support yesterday from switching out of gold. The metal fell a further $12 in London in reaction to Monday's sharp drop.

The pound is an attractive currency to hold, with high interest rates relative to European levels, North Sea oil and a large current account surplus on the balance of payments.

The main factors underpinning the American currency are high interest rates and expectations of rises in the near future.

The strength of these *two* currencies contrasts with the continuing weakness of the Deutsche mark.

# Food group goes to market for £45m

By Peter Wainwright

Associated Dairies, the £450m Leeds-based food retailing group which spent £37.5m on buying the Allied Retailers carpets and furniture business, is the first group this year to test the stock market for new money.

Advised by Baring Brothers, *the merchant bankers, it is pro*posing to issue 30.27 million new ordinary shares at 154p a share to ordinary shareholders in the proportion of one to eight.

The issue is designed to raise £45m after expenses. Brokers to the issue are Scrimgeour, Kemp-Gee.

Associated Dairies is noted for its string of Asda superstores, units of at least 25,000 square feet of selling space *with car parks on the same* level. The group now has 59 of these huge stores, mostly in the north of England.

The group opened London's first large superstore at Park Royal last October.

However, fewer than half a dozen of the superstores are in *the south of England where* planning permission is hard to get. The one at Park Royal has a selling area of 48,000 square feet on one floor besides parking for 600 cars. But the store at the Aston Villa football ground is 78,000 square feet.

The group plans to build six to eight superstores a year, but the cost of building and scarcity of sites mean that it will probably spend £150m between now and April, 1983. It is also refurbishing stores and building up Allied Carpet Stores and Allied Fresh Foods.

In the 28 weeks to mid November last, Associated lifted turnover from £448.08m to £598.59m. Most of this, £532.38m, came from Associated Dairies which hoisted trading profits from £17.74m to *£21.33m.*

But Allied Retailers saw profits fall from £4m to £1.25m. Wades Departmental Stores had profits of £705,000 against £536,000.

In addition, Asda Superstores was slowed down by the cost of opening an unusually large number of outlets. So the result was that pre-tax profits of the group as a whole only moved from £22.54m to £22.76m.

Parts of Allied Retailers are still suffering from the recession, but the rest of the group is expected to put up a resilient performance in the second half.

It has to be seen whether this *money raising will lead to* spate of others. Associated Dairies is highly regarded by the stock market which is not necessarily the case with other cash hungry groups.

Financial Editor, page 19

## PRICE CHANGES

### Rises

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Amal power | 7p to 73p | Kode Int | 15p to 268p |
| Eleco Hldgs | 6p to 62p | Magnet & Sthns | 12p to 134p |
| Electrocomps | 35p to 663p | Renwick Grp | 8p to 86p |
| Eurotherm Int | 15p to 246p | Richards & Wall | 4p to 28p |
| Highland | 10p to 105p | Royal Worcs | 15p to 220p |

### Falls

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Asarco | £¾ to £15¼ | MFI W'hse | 11p to 52p |
| Audiotronic | ½p to 3½p | B. Priest | 7p to 45p |
| East Dagga | 5p to 84p | Rand Mine Prop | 20p to 240p |
| Hamersley | 6p to 160p | Steep Rock | 20p to 200p |
| Lockwoods Fds | 2p to 32p | Transvaal Cons | £2 to £17 |

## THE POUND

| | Bank buys | Bank sells | | Bank buys | Bank sells |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Australia $ | 2.12 | 2.04 | Norway Kr | 13.33 | 12.78 |
| Austria Sch | 36.75 | 34.75 | Portugal Esc | 135.00 | 127.00 |
| Belgium Fr | 82.25 | 78.75 | South Africa Rd | 2.13 | 1.98 |
| Canada $ | 2.93 | 2.85 | Spain Pta | 200.00 | 191.50 |
| Denmark Kr | 15.78 | 15.08 | Sweden Kr | 11.28 | 10.78 |
| Finland Mkk | 9.90 | 9.45 | Switzerland Fr | 4.65 | 4.42 |
| France Fr | 11.80 | 11.30 | USA $ | 2.47 | 2.40 |
| Germany DM | 5.13 | 4.90 | Yugoslavia Dnr | 86.00 | 81.00 |
| Greece Dr | 123.00 | 116.00 | | | |
| Hongkong $ | 12.95 | 12.35 | | | |
| Ireland Pt | 1.36 | 1.31 | | | |
| Italy Lira | 2450.00 | 2340.00 | | | |
| Japan Yn | 513.00 | 487.00 | | | |
| Netherlands Gld | 5.54 | 5.31 | | | |

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

# Rowland ally for Sir Hugh Fraser at crucial meeting

By Philip Robinson

The crucial meeting of the 15 directors of the House of Fraser this morning, at which Sir Hugh *expects a boardroom coup to vote* him out as chairman, will be attended by Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, his new ally.

It is understood that this will be one of the few Fraser board meetings which Mr Rowland has attended in person since he was deposed as non-executive deputy chairman of Britain's largest stores group by Professor Roland Smith last August. Lord Duncan Sandys, the other Lonrho nominee, will be represented by Mr Paul Spicer, a fellow Lonrho director.

The new friendship between Sir Hugh and Mr Rowland—at loggerheads until last Thursday *when they agreed that public quarrels* costing shareholders an estimated £1m had been all a misunderstanding—represents a commanding force in terms of shareholding.

Together they can influence 33.5 per cent of the total Fraser equity and its is estimated that personal loyalty from smaller shareholders to the Fraser family could give them a further 10 per cent.

*Immediately after the reconciliation, Mr* Spicer said that Lonrho would now back Sir Hugh as chairman and wanted to work together in the best interests of the House of Fraser.

Sir Hugh has already said that if he loses today, it is likely that there will be another special shareholders' meeting to fight out the matter in an American-style proxy battle.


Mr "Tiny" Rowland: a rare attendance.

**HOUSE OF FRASER: THE LARGEST SHAREHOLDERS**

| Holder | percentage of total equity | Holder | percentage of total equity |
|---|---|---|---|
| Lonrho | 29.99 | Midland Bank Trust | 1.51 |
| Fraser Trusts | 3.54 | Post Office Pension Fund | 1.38 |
| National Coal Board Pension Fund | 2.72 | Robert Fleming Nominees (major banks) | 1.01 |
| British Rail Pension Fund | 1.67 | Clydesdale Bank head office nominees | 0.86 |
| Legal & General Assurance | 1.63 | Prudential Corporation | 0.84 |

Twice in the past seven months, Sir Hugh has been victorious by a handsome majority in fending off Lonrho's public attacks. It is reckoned in the City that the two are virtually unstoppable now that they have joined forces.

But if Sir Hugh and Mr. Rowland are reconciled, there are dark rumblings from some *of the pension funds and insurance companies* whose holdings in Fraser account for about 40 per cent of the total equity, and whose combined stakes are worth £72m

A meeting of the National Association of Pension Funds took place before last Tuesday's special shareholders' meeting, at which it is understood disquiet was expressed over Fraser.

Mr Hugh Jenkins, director-general of the National Coal Board Pension Fund, is under*stood to be heading a number of funds wishing* to meet members of the Fraser board.

Sir Hugh says he has been contacted by the Post Office Pension Fund and the Lucas Works Pension Trust, *owners of 533,360 shares.*

But the Post Office denied yesterday that it was seeking a meeting and a spokesman for the Lucas fund said: "I just don't want to comment. There seems to be confusion over who is really trying to organize it." Mr Jenkins was unavailable for comment.

At least one institution, British Rail, has *made it clear* to the Fraser board that it was "uncomfortable" at giving support to Sir Hugh.

*It is understood* that a number of pension funds gave qualified support in an attempt to fend off Lonrho, but said they were not happy with the running of the company.

Most believe that there is no quick cure for Fraser and to blame one man by dismissing him is not the answer. *Opion is divided on* whether Sir Hugh should go.

Few feel that S. G. Warburg, the group's merchant bankers whose future is also up for *discussion today should be dismissed.* One fund manager said: "Clearly changes are needed at Fraser, and Warburg's have been in long enough to know what is happening and have assessed what is best for the company. To change advisers now would merely delay the timing of the changes needed."

The insurance company shareholders say they are "watching the situation closely".

*Meanwhile, today's meeting could create* a problem for Harrods—Sir Hugh is due to resume the chairmanship of the Fraser subsidiary at the end of the month.

Institutions' role, page 19

## Zimbabwe buys SA bank stake

The South African controlling shareholding in Rhobank, one of the three main banks in Zimbabwe, is to be bought by the government for about Z$26m (about £16m).

The purchase of the entire 61 per cent share held by the Johannesburg-based Nedbank Group was an important step significantly reducing the foreign control of the Zimbabwean banking industry", Senator Enos Nkala, the minister of finance, told a press conference.

The deal is the second this month involving the takeover of South African interests in Zimbabwe. On January 3 it was announced that the Argus Company's holding in the country's press had been bought and would be taken over by a media trust.

### Montedison decision

Signor Mario Schimberni, chairman of Montedison, has ignored government appeals and union threats of strikes and confirmed Italy's largest petrochemical group will keep to plans to dismiss between 8,500 and 9,000 employees, or about 20 per cent of the workforce.

### Car imports warning

Mr Lane Kirkland, the AFL-CIO president, told Japanese labour officials in Tokyo that car imports were "a principal cause of the United States auto industry catastrophe" and steps to halt the flow of imports were "essential to the future economic health of the United States".

### Bonn complaints

Several member states of the European Community, primarily France and Italy, are blocking imports of West German goods by using practices that are illegal under EEC rules, Deutsches Industrie und Handelstag, the West German chamber of industry and trade, claim in a letter to the Commission.

### Danish economic plan

Denmark's industry federation presented a plan to Mr Anker Jørgensen, the Prime Minister, aimed at improving the country's competitiveness and balancing its current account by 1987. The plan calls for wage increases to be kept 5 per cent below those of Denmark's trading partners.

### Asian growth report

Asian economies will continue to be among the fastest growing in the world this year, with real gross national product growth averaging 4.8 per cent compared with 5.1 per cent in 1980, Chemical Bank in Singapore said in a report on economic trends of 13 Asian countries.

### Bonn interest rates

Herr Hans Matthöfer, the Bonn finance minister, says that West Germany cannot lower its interest rates while rates in the United States remain high. But he added he did not believe that America would be able to stick to high interest rates for much longer.

### French car sales

French car sales held up much better last year than in many other markets, but started slipping towards the end of the year, the Auto Manufacturers' Association said in Paris. For the whole of 1980, new registrations of private cars totalled 1,873,185, or only 5.2 per cent less than in 1979, a record year for sales.

### Chinese population

China's population growth rate declined slightly in 1980, the Communist Party newspaper People's Daily has reported. The rate dropped from 11.7 per 1,000 in 1979 to less than 11 per 1,000. It did not give actual population figures, but that growth rate would have meant a 1980 increase of about 10.7 million.

### Japanese loans

The big four Japanese securities houses have started to raise dollar impact loans through Japanese banks under the amended foreign exchange law which lifted controls over such loans, securities sources said in Tokyo. To date they have raised an estimated $200m (£84m).

### Indonesian credit

Indonesia and a group of 11 European banks led by Société Générale of Paris have signed commercial export credit agreements in Jakarta totalling 910m French francs (nearly £83m) for Jakarta's proposed new airport.

### Mexican Euroloan

Banco Nacional de Credito Rural of Mexico is well on the way to completing syndication of its eight-year, $350m (nearly £146m) Euroloan after having formed an underwriting group of between 15 and 20 banks.

### Turkish devaluation

Turkey has devalued its lira against the dollar and six other key currencies by between 2.96 and 4.49 per cent. The biggest devaluation was against the pound sterling, which went up from 210.12 to 219.57 lira.

## 45,000 redundancies in December bring 1980 total to highest on record

# Job losses show no sign of easing

By Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

There is no sign of any easing in job losses, according to estimates issued yesterday by both the Department of Employment and the Confederation of British Industry. The total number estimated by the Department of Employment to have been made redundant in December is 45,000, showing a continuation of the abnormally high levels recorded since the summer.

The figures, based on returns from the Employment Service Division, take the total for 1980 to 491,400, more than three times higher than the preceding year's total and the highest on record.

The main sectors affected during the month were mechanical engineering, other metal goods, textiles and building which together account for 38 per cent of the total.

The CBI yesterday predicted that very sharp falls in employment in manufacturing industry would continue at present levels for at least another four months. Its economists forecast that in the eight months between September 1980 and May 1981, manufacturing industry will have shed between 350,000 and 500,000 jobs.

The CBI's latest quarterly survey of industrial trends shows that 74 per cent of manufacturers have cut down the numbers they employ during the past four months and 61 per cent expect to make further employment cutbacks during the next four months.

The 1,812 companies which participate in the survey collectively employ about three million workers and produce nearly half the country's manufactured exports.

Among the latest threats of job losses were those announced by five companies yesterday. About 100 people are expected to be made redundant at Thomas Forman & Sons, the Nottingham printers.

The company is to combine its carton operations with Hollingsworth Marshall at Romford, Essex in the same group. Forman makes cartons for the cosmetics pharmaceutical and confectionery industries.

C I Autohomes of Poole, Dorset, announced 60 redundancies among hourly-paid workers involved in the manufacture of motor caravans. Mr Ian MacPherson, the managing director, blamed the Government's economic policies and the world recession.

Flying Tigers, an American based cargo airline, is to make "substantial" redundancies among its 200 workers at Heathrow airport.

Mr Clifford Foss, the airline's general manager, said the redundancies were necessary because of "a general fall-off in business and because we have lost one or two contracts. Business is very low at the moment due to the recession".

He refused to say exactly how many staff would lose their jobs because talks were still going on with the unions. "It is a very sensitive situation and it is very sad to have to announce redundancies."

At Terex at Newhouse, Lanarkshire there have been cutbacks involving early retirement by 40 management and staff, and a reduction of 55 hourly-paid jobs is expected to be achieved by "natural wastage" rather than involuntary redundancy. The plant was formerly owned by General Motors but was taken over earlier this month by IBH Holding.

The Perkins diesel engine company at Peterborough is laying off 800 production workers this week because of reduced demand for engines.

The latest figures show that 595,500 are supported by the Government's temporary short time working compensation scheme, little change on the preceding month.

### REDUNDANCIES AND REDUCTIONS INVOLVING 100 OR MORE JOBS PUBLISHED DURING THE PAST MONTH

| Company and product | Approx No. affected | Main locations |
|---|---|---|
| Fisons, fertilizers | 1,100 | Immingham, Avonmouth, Barking, Plymouth, Boston, Widnes, Felixstowe, Levington |
| Vosper Shiprepairers (British Shipbuilders) | 1,000 | Southampton |
| Perkins, diesel engines | 1,900 | Peterborough |
| Pratt Woodworth, machine tools | 170 | Winchester |
| William Teacher & Sons, whisky | 125 | Glasgow |
| Sidlaw Industries, weaving and spinning | 340 | Camperdown, Dundee |
| Allied Suppliers | 180 | Paisley, Scotland |
| BSC Teesside division | 3,700 | |
| Civil Service | 2,000 | Northern Ireland |
| School Meal Staff (education committee) | 1,200 | Norfolk |
| British Steel Corporation | 700 | Port Talbot |
| TI Raleigh cycle plant | 650 | Nottingham |
| Bristol Bus Company | 500 | |
| GKN Automotive Fasteners | 459 | Birmingham |
| Kelloggs | 200 | Manchester |
| BSC | 250 | Llanwern |
| William Denby & Sons | 150 | Baildon, near Bradford |
| Central Office of Information | 150 | |
| Trustee Savings Bank | 179 | Bootle, Manchester |
| Schreiber, furniture | 475 | Manchester |
| Manchester Ship Canal Company | 300 | |
| Watney London | 250 | Whitechapel |
| Vauxhall Motors | 5,700 | Ellesmere Port, Luton, Dunstable |
| Wiggins Teape (BAT Industries), paper making | 350 | |
| Samuel Jones | 150 | Huntingdon |
| GKN | 400 | Newton Abbot, Devon |
| Domestic Industrial Pressings | 240 | Ilkeston, Derbyshire |
| Mersey Docks & Harbour Company | 605 | Liverpool |
| West Coast Stevedoring | 250 | Liverpool |
| Ferodo, brake linings | 350 | Burton, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Caernarvon, Gwynedd |
| Smedley HP Foods | 400 | Wisbech, Cambs |
| Linotype & Machinery | 240 | Manchester |
| Chance Brothers (Pilkington Group), fluorescent tubemaking | 550 | Smethwick, W Midlands |
| British Enkalon, synthetic fibres | 700 | Antrim, N. Ireland |
| BTP Tioxide, plant pigments | 350 | Billingham on Tees |
| Tyne Shipyard Repair Group | 440 | |
| Liverpool Daily Post | 125 | |
| Mitchells & Butlers Brewery | 100 | Birmingham |
| BL Radiator plant | 1,100 | Llanelli |
| Berec Batteries (Ever Ready) | 250 | |
| Lotus Shoes | 300 | |
| Tate & Lyle | 1,600 | Liverpool |
| Storey Brothers, PVC | 1,000 | Brantham, near Ipswich |
| Midland Electric Manufacturing (Delta Metal Group) | 550 | Birmingham |
| Austin Packaging Group (Unilever) | 480 | Bromborough, Merseyside |
| Courtaulds | 200 | E. Anglia, Essex |
| Poulton & Paul, engineering | 200 | Norwich |
| Euroweld | 237 | Belfast |
| ITT Electronics | [illegible] | S. Devon |
| Rists motor components factory | 200 | Newcastle under Lyme, Staffs |
| Allen Bradley Electronics | 157 | Jarrow |
| Standard Telephone and Cables (STC) | 300/400 | Northern Ireland |
| School meals services | 2,500 | Norfolk, Lincolnshire |

Source: The Times, The Sunday Times, Financial Times. Dec. 31—Jan. 27.

# BL pledge to hold redundancies at 10,000

By Edward Townsend

The 10,000 job reductions among BL's labour force of 140,000 this year should be achieved without recourse to a new redundancy programme.

BL executives will convey this message to union leaders when they meet to discuss the company's four-year corporate plan after the Government's decision this week to inject a further £990m of state funds into the loss-making group.

The company promised the unions there would be an opportunity for full discussions once the plan was approved and these are expected to take place within the next few weeks.

There is bound to be concern in the unions, however, that when the company has completed its restructuring into the four main parts of BL Cars, Leyland Group (commercial vehicles), Land Rover and Unipart (components), they will face renewed pressure for additional manpower cuts which will boost job losses to well over 10,000.

Since Sir Michael Edwardes took over as chairman of BL three years ago, the company has shed 52,000 workers in its United Kingdom operations, half of them last year, and regards reductions in staff this year as one of the chief measures it can adopt to cut costs.

BL estimates that it loses between 2,000 and 4,000 employees through natural wastage each year and this will be one of the main methods of cutting the payroll in 1981.

In addition, there is the departure of the 2,000 white collar workers whose redundancies have already been announced, and further known cutbacks of about 1,800 workers at Leyland Vehicles and Coventry Climax which will take effect next month.

Another 2,800 people will lose their jobs with what now appears to be the certain closure of the BL vehicle assembly plant at Seneffe near Mons.

Union sources at the factory, which has been on short time working for five months, said yesterday they believed a decision would be taken by the BL board in London tomorrow.

Another 2,500 jobs can be written off when negotiations are completed for the sale of the Prestcold commercial refrigeration business to Suter Electrical, the Lancashire company in which Mr David Abell, former managing director of Leyland Vehicles, is a big shareholder.

Over the four years of the corporate plan, BL has earmarked £320m for extraordinary and exceptional expenditure. It said: "Most of this will occur in the early part of the plan period to cover restructuring — including the redundancy programme and factory closures."

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Examining industrial training

From The Chairman, Distributive Industry Training Board

Sir, The Centre for Policy Studies, the Conservative research organization, is as entitled as anyone in a democracy to advocate the abolition of my board. Its view about training boards is as relevant or irrelevant to the review of industrial training now taking place as anyone else's.

What I strongly question is the depth and method of their research before coming to the unsurprising conclusion—for them—that all 24 ITBs should be abolished immediately.

Let me give you my experience of the Centre's method of operation. Last September a Mr S. Mendham, chief executive of the Forum of Private Business wrote to us asking for a copy of our annual report. The document was promptly dispatched, to be answered by a letter from Mr Mendham in which he said he was having difficulty in procuring the effectiveness of the increased training which has taken place". He asked: "Can you help with this question, please?"

Subsequently, in a phone conversation with an official of the board, Mr Mendham left us with a clear impression that he was merely trying to advise his members how to evaluate training undertaken as a result of the board's advice.

The Forum of Private Business is based at Knutsford, Cheshire. It is described as a "non-partisan political pressure group to promote free enterprise by giving private and professional people a greater voice in the legislation which affects them".

In the course of his discussions, he agreed about the difficulty of evaluating the success—or failure—of any specific training in terms which could be measured scientifically.

Mr Mendham, we now discover, is the very same person who has produced the report for the Centre for Policy Studies, which even Mrs Thatcher and Sir Keith Joseph would not claim is politically non-partisan.

That inquiry, and telephone call, is the only examination, so far as I am aware, which Mr Mendham has made into my board's operation. At no time has he sought, on behalf of the Centre, an open meeting with officials of the board, nor revealed that he has been undertaking a partisan review of ITBs.

Clearly his motives all along have been partisan despite his query to us in a non-partisan capacity.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN PHILLIPS,
Chairman,
Distributive Industry Training Board,
MacLaren House,
Talbot Road,
Stretford,
Manchester, M32 0FP.
January 22.

### The consequences of the turning wheel

From Sir Kenneth Corley

Sir, Mr D. G. Galvin (Letters, January 16) has put his finger right in the centre of the hottest and most important problem we have on our plate. We shall, and we should, continue to have two million "unemployed" for ever, although they will be different persons and differently named. If all the present unemployed just go back to work as they were a couple of years ago it will be a measure of our inefficiency and unproductivity. Nevertheless, we should all be better off. "Unemployment" should be a measure of our well-being.

Millions of people must have been put out of work when the wheel was invented. More millions must have gone when earth moving equipment substituted shovels and barrows. But we all became better off as a result of these "labour saving" tools.

Today's problem is to discover how we are going to share work, share leisure, get more work done, raise our production of wealth, share our wealth and live a better life. I hope that some brains other than Mr Galvin's are working on this because it is desperately urgent. The unemployed are here now and they will not, and should not, go away.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH CORLEY,
Yewtree,
Waxdale,
Seascale,
Cumbria CA20 1EU.

### Reducing accounting costs

From Mr George C. Neil

Sir, Sir Kenneth Bond in his article on "Keeping the costs of accounting within bounds" (January 19) mentions, among others, the cost of the annual audit.

Surely now is the time for the professional accountancy bodies to produce definite proposals on reducing the statutory requirement for a full annual audit to that of an annual review in the case of small private companies, where the shareholders are actively concerned in the day-to-day running of the business.

This would not prevent a majority of the shareholders calling for a full audit should they so desire, and would still satisfy the need of, for example, a bank manager to have an independent opinion.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE C. NEIL,
Secretary,
Pillans & Wilson,
20 Bernard Terrace,
Edinburgh, EH8 9NY.
January 19.

### The burden of price rises

From Mrs P. A. Sneath

Sir, The recent information of proposed increases in the cost of gas and electricity, following increases last year, must be depressing news to those of us who are conscious of "pulling together" to improve our situation.

Recently there has been an increase in railway fares, which are now making the service prohibitive to many. Coal prices have also recently increased, as well as postal charges. We continually hear that it is not practical to spend more than is earned. Overall, increasing costs have caused people to rearrange their priorities.

This policy, however, needs cooperation from all sides. How can it be possible to cut back by necessity on the one hand, and then have to meet increased costs on the other? Like the Government, people, whether in families, private businesses or voluntary agencies can, or should spend only within their limits. These limits are causing great difficulties, and priorities are getting less and less.

Why, then, do these limits not appear to be applicable to monopolies like the gas and electricity boards, if only to give the incentive and encouragement that our country needs at this time?

PAULINE SNEATH,
The Vicarage,
Cedar Road,
Camphill Estate,
Nuneaton,
Warks.

# Little hope for Tate refinery

Tate & Lyle has agreed to consider a union rescue plan for its Liverpool sugar refinery after talks in London yesterday with Mr David Basnett, general secretary of the General and Municipal Workers Union.

But the company said it doubted if the union plan could prevent the refinery closing at the end of April with the loss of 1,500 jobs.

Mr Basnett appealed against the closure and put forward alternative proposals at a meeting with Lord Jellicoe, the company's chairman.

But Mr Frank Tomlinson, a director, said after the two-hour talks: "It would be dishonest if we said at this stage that we could see the slightest chink of hope."

Mr Basnett said: "We are not just concerned about the jobs. We have put certain proposals to the company and will be back next Tuesday to discuss them.

"We made our point of view very forcibly. They said they would consider it, but they didn't say they would not close the plant."

# America warns Japan on car curbs to EEC

Tokyo, Jan 27.—The United States has warned Japan that any agreement restraining car exports to the European Economic Community could reduce Japanese access to the American market, it was reported here today.

Mr Bill Brock, newly-appointed United States chief trade negotiator, told the Japanese ambassador in Washington yesterday that Japan should avoid such an agreement or face demands for curbs in its exports to the United States.

Sir Roy Denman, director-general for external relations of the EEC Commission, today called on Japan to restrain its car exports to the Community.

Sir Roy met with Mr Naohiro Amaya, the Japanese vice-minister for international trade and industry, before Japan and the EEC open two-day high-level consultations in Tokyo tomorrow on their trade imbalance, which is heavily in favour of Japan—about $9,000m (£3,700m) last year.

Sir Roy also met Mr Kiyoaki Kikuchi, the deputy foreign minister, and asked Japan to give a clear estimate of its car exports to the Common Market. The EEC delegation will be represented by Sir Roy and the Japanese delegation by Mr Kikuchi at the talks, during which the Japanese will be asked for self-restraint, especially on its exports of cars and colour television sets to Europe.

But Japan is expected not to reveal any specific figures, but pledge "orderly exports".

The Japanese Government will also present an estimate that the country's car exports to West Germany and the Benelux (Belgium, The Netherlands and Luxembourg) market this year, compared to large increases in 1980.

Car exports to the Community rose 19 per cent in the first eight months of 1980 to $1,600m.

The Japanese plan to tell the EEC that the outlook for this year's sales to Europe reflected a moderating trend, based largely on a higher-valued yen and the weakness of many European economies.

But the government would be unable to go beyond outlining its policy of urging Japanese manufacturers to show restraint in exports of cars and electronic goods. — Reuter and Agence France-Presse.

# Output of new homes threatened by land shortages, builders say

By John Huxley

Private housebuilders will tell ministers tomorrow that shortages of suitable land threaten the ability of the industry to meet the expected upturn in demand for new homes.

Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for the Environment, will be urged to ensure that local authorities in particular, release more land in areas where potential buyers want to live and where builders are prepared to build.

Mr Lynn Wilson, president of the House-Builders Federation, who will lead the delegation, explained that the low level of activity last year had obscured the growing seriousness of land shortages. When the upturn in demand comes—either this year or next—availability of land could prove a serious constraint.

Last year, builders started work on probably about 150,000 homes, of which some 100,000 were in the private sector. This was down by almost 70,000 on 1979 and compares with a figure of 325,000, as recently as 1976.

Mr Wilson says that despite slackness in the homes market, inquiries have built up well, indicating the strength of underlying demand. Little more than three years ago, a Green Paper, produced under the last Labour government, spoke of the need to ensure a housing programme of 300,000 units a year.

Mr Lynn Wilson: Inquiries for homes have held up well.

Although the debate has moved from discussion of quality rather than quantity, the House-Builders Federation still believes that a minimum of 250,000 to 260,000 new homes will have to be provided. In view of the drastic cutback in public sector building programmes, the onus will be on the private housebuilder to meet the shortfall.

In recent months, the federation has become increasingly disturbed by the submission by local authorities of structure plans which indicated a substantial decline in housebuilding. In some cases, the projected need has been as much as 30 per cent down on historic provision.

Land shortages have long been a source of disagreement between builders and the planners, both at local and central government level. The latter argue that land banks remain healthy and sufficient to allow several years' building at present rates.

The builders look beyond aggregate figures, arguing that much of the land is not "available" in the sense of being ready for development or in areas where people might actually want to live.

With the support of the Department of the Environment, the federation began a series of land availability studies, beginning with Manchester, and now covering large parts of England.

He added that throughout the recent recession, builders have tended to continue to accumulate land where they could, in many instances from other builders.



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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

# Inchcape makes hay in the Far East

Inchcape matched market hopes with interim profits up by more than a quarter to £39.1m. But what took the gilt off the gingerbread—and left the shares 12p lower at 428p—was the absence of an expected dividend increase and dark hints about the effects of recession in the second-half. Bearing in mind that with December year-ends for its overseas subsidiaries, Inchcape is talking with the benefit of hindsight the market was clearly not prepared to ignore the point.

Meanwhile Inchcape's tax charge up from £7.7m to a more normal £17.2m speaks volumes about the geographical pattern of economic conditions. Profits from the low-tax United Kingdom and Middle East areas have been evaporating to be replaced by booming returns from the harsher tax regimes of South East Asia and the Far East.

Overall profits from the Pacific basin have increased their share of the total from just over half last time to close on three-quarters with the Toyota franchises performing particularly strongly. In stark contrast Inchcape's Mann Egerton motor subsidiary in the United Kingdom has plunged from a pretax profit of £1.4m to a loss of £664,000 in the face of weak demand and big losses in Mann Egerton Furniture.

It is this sort of experience presumably which has encouraged caution on the dividend front although it must be a fair bet that Inchcape will make up the ground with a 10 per cent increase for the year at the final stage.

Despite the warnings profits still seem likely to show a sound gain to around £75m from last time's £65.6m.

This prospect implying a yield of 6.7 per cent and a fully-taxed p/e ratio of over 11 will do little for the share rating in the short-term. But it may not be too many months before institutional buying on further recovery hopes enlivens the picture.

Reed International

## Remaining on a low base

Reed International's 1980/81 period will be badly distorted by the experience of the first quarter in which industrial troubles, mainly in the publishing business, cost profits around £12m.

In the second quarter it returned to a base, albeit one that was well down on last year, and that trend continued into the third quarter with profits at £15m still way adrift of the £30m earned in the comparable period a year ago.

The pattern remains fairly constant—in the United Kingdom at the moment the recession is fierce in the newsprint business where Reed has undertaken a heavy closure programme

Publishing, though, had a good quarter, although advertising revenues are beginning to slip, and paint and building products and packaging are all proving resilient even though volumes are down.

Leaving aside the deflationary effect of converting overseas profits into sterling, the Quebec papermill continues reasonably well; the recession, though, is beginning to hurt in Europe while the United States wallcoverings business has more problems.

The question for the shares of course is whether Reed will hold the dividend (it did at the interim) even though it may well be uncovered on a current cost basis.

The chances are on the back of a strong balance sheet that it will unless the trading situation deteriorates markedly in the final quarter—two reasons, then, for thinking the shares have recovery potential at 183p yielding 10.1 per cent and selling at perhaps 5½ times likely earnings.

MFI

## Cutting back

Investor confidence in MFI as a glamour stock vanished yesterday when it reported interim profits of only £4.9m, £3.1m down on last year and considerably below expectations.

The market had seemed prepared to give MFI a second chance following the £30m Status Discount merger and the revised profits forecast last year, but the 11p fall to 52p in the share price yesterday ended all that.

Clearly the depth of the recession was partly to blame for the downturn as flat pack furniture demand suffered with the rest of the industry but Status has proved costly in terms of money and management as MFI has spent the last six months cutting back the number of Status stores from 66 to 29, with more closures scheduled for the second half. Borrowings, which were non-existent until 1979 rose by £3m to £18.3m, since the year end.

So, despite a sales increase from £56.1m to £90m, which represented a 2 per cent volume improvement in the original MFI stores, net margins have fallen significantly and judging by the group's own lack of optimism on the remainder of the year's trading, they will be hard pressed to recover.

Moreover, MFI's attempts to cut borrowings by the sale and leaseback of the Northampton premises whose book value is £8m has not yet born fruit and the group looks as if it will be forced to sacrifice market share when it finally raises prices.

However, the second half will include the results of two of the three annual sales which suggests profits in the range of £10m-£13m. MFI will presumably try hard to maintain the dividend. If it does the prospective yield is 7.2 per cent, nothing special given the risks.

● *Investment trusts have regained some lost ground over the past year with discounts falling from around 30 per cent to 22 per cent. Reminiscent too of their high-flying days in the early seventies when a host of specialist vehicles were launched, there has been a growing interest in trusts concentrating on particular sectors or areas. The latest is New Darien Oil Trust. Eschewing the frothy North Sea secondary oil stocks, Darien will invest three-quarters of its £10m in United States secondary oil and gas companies.*

*It reckons prices there more realistically reflect proven reserves, most drilling is onshore and cheap and—geared to capital growth—Darien is looking forward to price de-control in the United States.*

*The names associated with Darien include Barclays Merchant Bank and Phillips & Drew, whose clients will take half the 10m shares which come with warrants attached. Darien will be managed by a new company Hodgson Martin Ltd.*

Asda

## Building more superstores

Word of a cash call from Associated Dairies got out on Monday and the shares fell 6p to 184p. So when it became official yesterday they only slipped a further 2p to 182p.

Asda is raising £45m through a one-for-eight issue at 154p, and reports in the 28 weeks to mid-November last almost unchanged pretax profits of £22.8m. Even so, the 1980-81 peak was 200p so the market is taking the first old fashioned rights issue in ordinary shares of the new year in its stride.

This is understandable. The existing shares yield only 2.5 per cent and £45m of new money is only a tenth of the total market capitalization. The dividend is going up by 17.5 per cent and earnings a share are unlikely to suffer dilution.

The cost of the issue to the group is only 3.5 per cent, so it hardly had an incentive to consume property assets through sale and leaseback like Fraser and Tesco, let alone issue convertible loan stocks.

Even so, the cash call catches Asda as it pauses on its uphill climb. In 1979-80 the group hoisted pretax profits from £41m to £50m thanks to good going in carpets and furniture beside food. But in the latest half year they only moved from £22.5m to £22.8m, as Williams Furniture and Ukay Furnishing Centres lost money.

So the signs point to profits of say £51m this full year, with streamlining of Williams Furniture being treated as an extraordinary item. The hope for the next financial year should be of an end to recession, and Asda once again climbing uphill now that it has tackled its non-food problems.

The £45m is to be spent almost wholly on Asda superstores. The group has 59 at present and plans to build between six to eight a year. Between now and April, 1983, it will spend on capital account nearly £150m, forcing the group to borrow despite the issue. This highlights the cost of building superstores now that sites are so scarce.

Ronald Pullen

# When should the institutions intervene?

To many outsiders Sir Hugh Fraser and Lonrho's chief executive Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland seem to have been carrying on a private feud in the incongruous public battleground of the House of Fraser. Important issues about the running of the department stores group—whose record in the last few years has hardly impressed the City—appear to have become mixed up in bitter personal differences which may work to the detriment of the long-term health of Fraser and the interests of other shareholders.

Last week's dramatic eleventh hour reconciliation in Scotland between Sir Hugh and Mr Rowland, now back on the same side fighting off a possible coup from other directors to get rid of Sir Hugh as chairman, has only served to heighten the suspicion that House of Fraser's future lies in the hands of two very powerful men whose motives for their actions are far from clear.

Certainly, that seems to be the conclusion of Fraser's financial advisers, merchant bankers Warburg and stockbrokers Cazenove, who seem to be as bemused as anyone about what exactly is going on at Fraser.

Previous boardroom wrangles like this have usually stung the investing institutions into action. But during all the brouhaha of the past year or more the institutions, who collectively speak for more than 35 per cent of the shares, have remained curiously silent. They have presumably preferred to use the opportunity of the extraordinary general meetings to show that while they are no great fans of House of Fraser management they have not been convinced by Mr Rowland's arguments.

There is another interpretation. This is that they have been using Warburg and Cazenove as sounding boards about what is actually going on, but have not wanted to upset the applecart because of widespread expectations that Lonhro would eventually use its near 30 per cent holding as the springboard for a full bid, which would give them handsome capital gains.

Only in the last few days have the institutions, through their investment protection committees started to involve themselves more directly, yet again leaving them open to the criticism that they come on to the scene far too late in the day to be really effective.

The precise role of the institutions in industrial management is probably still as ill-defined as ever. In part, that is their own fault, since most of the institutions' activities are shrouded in secrecy. In many cases that is rightly so, since to come out into the open and announce that they were taking a closer interest in any particular company could easily undermine confidence in it. But it is still fair to conclude that the balance between power and accountability is imperfectly understood both within the institutions and within industrial companies.

Critics say that in the past year the issue of dawn raids has shown the institutions in a bad light. When they have been approached for shares in such circumstances their professed interest in the long-term future of a company seems often to have given way to a competing desire for short-term gain.

Both the Wilson Committee's report and recent speeches by Sir Keith Joseph, the Industry Secretary, have made it clear how the official view has changed, with the investing institutions left in no doubt that they must take a closer strategic interest in industrial performance.

The debate over the right and proper role of the institutions in industrial management has been an enduring one in the City for well over a decade. Before that, fund managers tended to be much less confident of their ability to assess company performance, although the Prudential always prided itself, even before the war, on its behind-the-scenes influence.

But it was not until the early 1970s that there were moves to put the links between the users and providers of capital on a more formal footing. The background to this was a rapid growth in the financial power of the institutions, the disbanding of the old Industrial Reorganization Corporation (which had kept a watching brief on vulnerable sectors of the economy) and a series of spectacular crashes like those of Rolls-Royce and Upper Clyde Shipbuilders, which raised important questions about company managements.

The catalyst was the Bank of England, which despite heated opposition from some of the institutions set up the Institutional Shareholders Committee.

Institutions, however, continued to believe that their primary skills lay in investing and that they had little expertise in industrial management, so that particular initiative withered away. They argued that their main responsibility was to their investors, for whom as trustees they could not take the sort of risks inherent in the closer relationship with industry envisaged at the time.

Since then much of the work of the individual protection committees has been routine, dealing with changes in matters directly affecting them as shareholders, such as alterations to articles of association or increases in borrowing limits.

Occasionally, however, the institutions have flexed their muscles publicly on matters of wider import. A few years ago the institutions left Coats Patons in no doubt that if it passed a dividend again with no good reason there would be hell to pay; they exploited the boardroom row at Rank between Sir John Davis and Mr Graham Dowson to get rid of the company's non-voting structure.

More recently, Barclays Bank was rapped over the knuckles for its investment trust deal which they argued discriminated against existing shareholders; and during the Allied-Lyons takeover they engineered a change in The Stock Exchange's rules so that shareholders would be consulted on major deals.

In pursuing Newman Industries through the courts over some of its controversial deals, the Prudential won an important victory in standing up for the rights of small and large shareholders. But there have been too many cases where the institutions have stood aside, thereby giving ammunition to the City's critics who say that they should be more robust. House of Fraser is likely to be yet another occasion when firmer action by the institutions could, and should, have altered the course of events.

Joan Best discusses the growing row over Canada's energy policy

# Alberta prepares to turn the taps off

Ottawa

In a little over a month Alberta will start to turn off the oil taps to the rest of Canada—an act which will step up the already bitter row between the federal government and this mineral-rich province over energy policy and, even more important, the balance of political power.

Despite the battering which it has taken from opposition members of parliament, provincial politicians in the Canadian West and the oil industry, the federal government's national energy programme—the immediate cause of all the fuss—looks like staying in place.

"We do not intend to back off from these policies", Mr Mark Lalonde, the energy minister, told an opposition questioner in the Commons recently. "... We are determined to achieve these goals and we will".

The goals are: "Canadianization" of the oil and natural gas industry; substitution of alternate forms of energy, including gas, for oil; and energy self-sufficiency by 1990.

It was apparent when it was unveiled last October—simultaneously with the federal budget—that the policy would have a rocky ride and that it could be fulfilled, if at all, only at the cost of added strains on national unity.

It immediately added fresh impetus to the controversy surrounding Canadian constitutional reform. Control over resources is one of the issues at stake in this dispute, which involves the federal government's unilateral move—opposed by eight of the 10 provinces—to "patriate" the British North America Act from Westminster.

Alberta is prominent among the provinces opposing the constitutional resolution, which is now before a parliamentary committee.

The part of the federal energy package which most enraged Alberta was a provision for new production taxes on gas and on the net revenues of both oil and gas companies, calculated to enrich the federal treasury by 11,700m Canadian dollars (about £4,200m) by the end of the 1983-84 financial year.

Mr Peter Lougheed, the Alberta premier, had given warning earlier that an export tax on gas would be tantamount to a "declaration of war" against his province by the federal government. In the event, the government imposed a levy not only on gas sold in the United States but on that sold in Canada, too.

It also announced a plan to increase domestic ownership of the country's oil and gas industry to at least 50 per cent by the end of the decade (the industry is now about 80 per cent American-owned or controlled) and it provided for a series of hefty increases — a total of C$17.30 over four years —in the price of domestically-produced oil, nearly all of which comes from Alberta.

Alberta was far from satisfied with this, since it will still leave the price of a barrel of oil at only C$34 in 1983, well below even the present world price of close to US$40 a barrel. Federal policy for some years has been to keep Canadian oil prices artificially low, to help the competitive position of the country's industry.

Mr Lougheed's response to the national energy programme was an accusation that the federal government had "walked into our home and occupied the living room" and the decision to cut oil production.

Output is to be cut by 180,000 barrels a day, or about a fifth, in three stages starting on March 1. Alberta has said that it will not proceed with the reduction if there is evidence that it would cause serious oil shortages, but at present it shows every intention of going ahead.

Mr Lougheed has also promised to cancel the cuts if the federal government agrees to negotiate "a new and fairer arrangement on petroleum pricing".

Both sides in the dispute have intimated that they are prepared to reopen negotiations and both have good reason to try to reach a settlement. Apart from the absurdity of trying to carry out a national energy policy while at loggerheads with the key producing province, the federal regime must view with alarm the immediate prospect of an oil reduction by Alberta.

If it decided to make up the full 180,000-barrel daily deficit by buying on the world spot market, the federal government could end up spending at least C$2,500m a year.

As for Alberta, despite its fabled mineral wealth and its treasury overflowing with petrodollars — even at the ridiculously low price per barrel obtaining in Canada—it can ill-afford the loss in income and jobs that would result from cutbacks on the scale proposed.

Parts of the Alberta economy are already being hurt because billions of dollars' worth of development of tar sands oil in the province has been held up. A number of projects have been placed in abeyance, in one case by industry, in other cases by the provincial government itself, as a result of the uncertainty generated by the federal-provincial squabble.

Both sides to the dispute are also aware that there would be a political price to pay if Alberta started turning off the oil tap and it could fall on either or both the Liberal government in Ottawa or the Conservative government in Edmonton.

So politicians are tip-toeing through the gathering storm, careful not to close any doors but also not to give the impression that they are overflowing with eagerness for negotiations.

Answering a question in the Commons a few days ago Mr Allan MacEachen, the finance minister, said that the federal government was prepared to negotiate "on the understanding that those with whom we negotiate are also prepared to make accommodations and changes".

Asked point blank whether it was willing to discuss the new taxes on oil and gas, he replied non-committally: "We are prepared to discuss with the producing provinces all items which might lead to a conclusion and an agreement that would be fair to all parties."

Meanwhile, the national energy programme is taking its toll in other directions. Oil drilling rigs are said to be moving back to the United States from western Canada because of reduced exploration incentives.

Earlier this month, Mobil Oil Canada cut its 1981 capital investment programme from C$359m to C$195m, with a warning that the energy programme would reduce the projected after-tax income by more than 60 per cent. The investment value of several planned projects was now doubtful, the company said.

Mobil operates a consortium which wants to develop the Hibernia discovery off the Newfoundland coast.

In Toronto the chairman of the Toronto-Dominion Bank, Mr Richard Thomson, went further. He told the bank's annual meeting in Toronto that the energy programme could produce a "national disaster". It could leave Canada, which already imports large quantities of oil for its eastern seaboard, more dependent on offshore petroleum and so draw the country further away from, rather than towards, energy self-sufficiency.

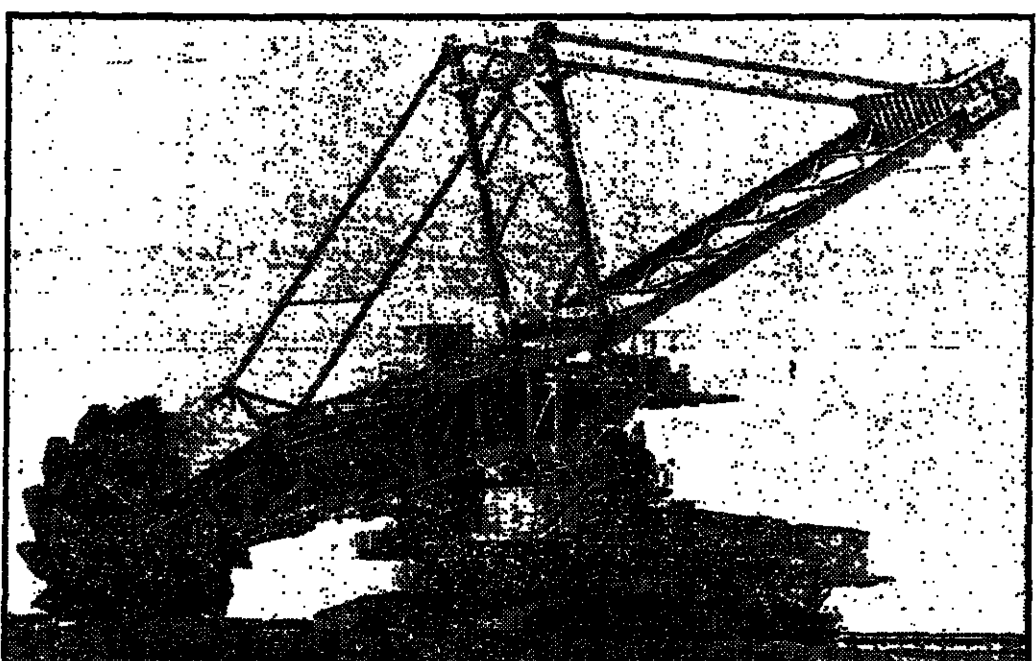
It is also taken for granted in some quarters that the Canadianization aspect of the energy programme will eventually cause repercussions in the international investment community and in board rooms of the multinational oil companies.

Among other things, the plan calls for Petro-Canada, a crown-owned company, to take over the Canadian operations of one or more of the multinationals—through negotiation if possible and presumably through expropriation if necessary.

Mr Lalonde says that he hopes that in 1981 Petro-Canada will buy out "at least one, two or three foreign companies with a view to enhancing Canadian ownership".

Mr MacEachen for his part, is little impressed by what he calls the "doleful dirges" recited by opposition MPs.

"I think it is absolutely clear that the cash flow available to the industry is ample and growing", he told the Commons. "No other sector in the Canadian economy has the opportunity for growth and development that this industry has."



A huge excavating machine at work in the Athabasca oil sand field at Fort McMurray, Alberta: the province thinks that proposed increases would still leave the price of domestically produced oil too far behind the prevailing world price.

# Business Diary: Go West, young woman • Card vote

The engineering industry, never a great employer of women at management level, has come up with a useful way of marking the fifth anniversary of the passage of the Sex Discrimination Act and the implementation of the Equal Pay Act.

Harry Wood, head of the management development centre of the West Midlands Engineering Employers' Association, plans to hold courses this year aimed at preparing women for jobs in management.

Furthermore, the WMEEA is acting as host to Stephanie Gaunt and Mandy Collett, two researchers with a grant from the Equal Opportunities Commission. With it they will be coming up with ideas for company training programmes that discriminate for, instead of against, women.

A "Women in Management" course was held last year, after Wood noted that the proportion of women in engineering management was "at around 2 per cent" and still falling.

This was a six-week course attended by 12 women, of whom all but two were unemployed. Employers inside and outside engineering were reluctant to free women for a course that long.

The two women researchers were recruited from last year's intake, Stephanie Gaunt being one of the two who had a job.

The other woman who had a job has since been promoted and all the others have since found work.

This year's courses will be restructured so that more employed women can enrol.

*If I had had some of our office writing paper on me yesterday I would have sought Peter Royle's opinion of it; but I had to make do with my card.*

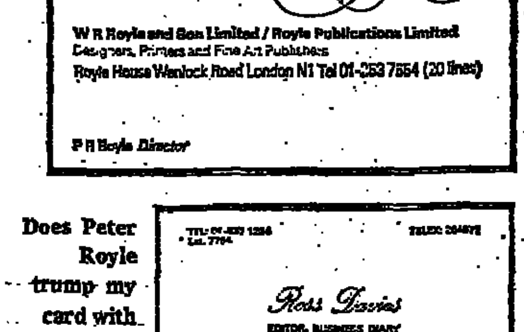
*Royle, a director of his family's printing company, W. R. Royle, is chairman of the council which is asking 50,000 users of business stationery to enter for the 1981 British Letterhead Awards.*

*On being pressed to comment, Royle described my card the standard item which Timespeople proffer to contacts, as "terrible."*

*I think Royle may have a point, although in fairness I must point out that our design people were not too taken with Royle's own card.*

*Royle's remarks were not the first printing surprise of the day. As I left to see him I opened a letter which was a fraternal greeting sent to all Times Newspapers employees, by Rupert Murdoch. This was under a Times Newspapers letter-heading, although at this time Murdoch's bid was still conditional.*

*But then Rupert Murdoch himself may have been surprised to see himself described as Robert Murdoch in an edition of yesterday's paper.*




Does Peter Royle trump my card with his?

● There is some indignation among consumerists about a singularly complacent (and hitherto unnoticed) announcement by the Department of Trade. It purports to give an account of a recent meeting that Consumers in the Economic Community Group (CECG) had with Sally Oppenheim, the Minister for Consumer Affairs.

The CECG represents 22 United Kingdom consumer organizations and it wanted the meeting to put across its unanimous view that it would be disastrous if the Government persisted with its intention to put into the EEC's draft directive on product liability a "state of the art defence". This would enable the makers of products which subsequently prove dangerous to plead "I didn't know the gun was loaded."

The Department of Trade's announcement says: "It was recognized that there was a considerable divergence of views even within the consumer movement on many aspects of the directive" and concludes that "one of the most important improvements" Mrs Oppenheim would be seeking to the directive would be "the introduction of the 'state of the art defence'".

The CECG says that its member groups have seldom been so united as they are in opposition to the Government's position on the "state of the art defence". This, they claim, will help manufacturers to escape liability for damage caused by their defective products.

The only disagreement within their ranks, faced with Mrs Oppenheim's unmoving attitude, was whether the consumer organizations would still support the draft directive with a "state of the art defence" or make a tactical decision to oppose the whole thing outright if such a defence was introduced.

There is one further disagreement discreetly hinted at —about the value of meetings with the present Minister for Consumer Affairs.

● Wilfred Broad retires as Director of Finance at Trusthouse Forte next week—not Financial Director, you will note, though as Broad says with an inwardness that could only be understood by those within the charmed inner circle at Sir Charles Forte's great hotels and catering empire: "It's the same thing, but slightly different."

To outsiders it seems strange that a company as large as this should have no main board financial director, even allowing for the assumption—largely correct—that Sir Charles himself takes all crucial decisions, including financial ones.

Nevertheless, since retiring in 1976 from Reed International where he was financial director and deputy chairman under Lord Ryder, Broad has been deeply concerned with strategic financial thinking within Trusthouse

Fortunately for Sir Charles the counsels of Broad, now aged 66, will still be available: he will remain a financial consultant to Sir Charles for at least a year, though his job as Director of Finance goes to Donald Main of Alcan.

*Out of place: reader J. T. Harvey writes from Kennington, south London, to point out a passage in an advertisement which appeared in this paper for a housekeeper. One attraction of the job was that most of the domestic work was done by "a daily lady who attends twice a week."*

**Ross Davies**

Stock markets

# Equities still strong on hopes of MLR cut

Hopes of a cut in MLR in the Budget on March 10 kept hopes alive in the market yesterday as equities maintained their strong start to the account.

Volume was slightly up on Monday's business, but trade remained thin with prices showing exaggerated gains. Once again investors were concentrating their efforts on the more favourable sectors with strong performances by electricals, insurance and oil shares. Elsewhere, dealers were kept on the hop by the numerous bid situations and company news.

So, sentiment continued to improve and when the unemployment figures were released, which showed the eighth consecutive increase to 2.4m, the market was able to disregard it. Only the latest gloomy report from the CBBI caused any mutterings, but after lunch the market continued its advance helped by a strong opening on Wall Street.

The *FT* Index, rose by 5.7 by midday, before retreating to only 3.8 higher at 3 pm. It eventually closed 5.5 up at 467.4.

Gold shares were also in better form following the rally in the bullion price, up $2 at $517.50.

Gilts came back into favour, helped by speculation that the new 'tap', where applications close today, will be warmly received and a bullish circular from brokers Panmure Gordon. In longs, gains of up to £¼ were reported, while in shorts, prices closed unchanged after earlier rises of £1/16.

Leading industrials saw little inquiry but share prices continued to be marked higher in line with the advance in the rest of the market. Among those to end the day 2p or 3p higher were ICI at 290p, Beecham at 172p, Glaxo at 258p, Unilever at 446p and GKN at 143p.

In papers, full-year figures from Reed International were in line with most expectations and the shares ended the day 1p lighter at 183p, while Bowater remained unchanged at 183p. Shares of Bristol Evening Post picked up 5p to 173p, still overshadowed by fears that the 190p-a-share bid from Associated Newspapers might be referred to the Monopolies Commission. Shares of

*Shareholders of UDT waiting patiently for further news of the 60p-a-share bid from Lloyds & Scottish may not have much longer to wait. The directors were said to have had a meeting with the institutions yesterday which may signal the rejection of L & S followed by a counter-bid from elsewhere. The shares rose 1p to 53p.*

Associated hardened 3p to 238p. Meanwhile, news that News International's offer for *The Times* and *Sunday Times* would not be referred to the Monopolies Commission resulted in a 2p rise at 93p, while International Thomson ended 7p dearer at 284p.

Electricals enjoyed another worthwhile session but were reported to be looking a little tired by the close, in spite of the continuing thin conditions. GEC rose 5p to 600p, Thorn EMI 9p to 297p and Plessey 3p to 276p, but Racal reporting tomorrow, looked decidely nervous, losing 7p to 308p.

Speculative attention lifted Muirhead 7p to 84p as buyers still banked on a bid from Tyco Laboratories. Interest was also expressed in Electrocomps, up 35p at 663p, and Kode International 15p better at 268p. Full-yearfigures from Eurotherm International were judged to be much better than expected as the shares advanced 15p to 246p and Unitech, reporting next week, expanded 10p to 252p.

In foods, the expected £45m rights issue from Associated Dairies caused only mild interest as the shares slipped 2p to 183p, but Glass Glover, weighing in with improved full-year figures, closed 4p dearer at 54p. In contrast, Somportex, which reported recently, dipped 30p to 730p on profit-taking.

The reduction in profits at the half-way stage left Benjamin Priest 7p lighter at 45p, while disappointing figures and a line of 1m shares on offer at 51½p left MFI Furniture tumbling 11p to 52p.

Disappointing figures also left Inchcape 12p lower at 428p; but dealers took heart in the interim statement from Stewart Plastics, 3p higher at 79p.

A £990m cash-injection by the Government saw shares of BL rise 3p to 21p in an exceptionally thin market which in turn sparked off a 6p rally in Lucas at 171p, in the wake of recent warnings about lay-offs.

Shares of Renwick returned from suspension up 8p at 86p following the counter-bid from Kangra International and hopes of improved terms from Bahco lifted Record Ridgway 6p to 43p. W. A. Tyzack, holding a sizable stake in Record, rose 4p to 36p.

peculative buying had Pritchard Services 6p ahead at 130p, along with Richards & Wallington, 4p to 28p. R. P. Martin added 2p to 150p despite the breakdown in talks with Bierbaum. Acquisition news had Dundonian 7p heavier at 64p and F. Pratt, awaiting figures, climbed 7p to 80p. But Mercantile House encountered good buying in a thin market, on the back of recent figures, rising 30p to 600p.

Builders made further good gains, with rises in Redland 7p to 167p, Blue Circle 6p to 259p and Barratt Developments 8p to 155p.

Hopes of no further increase in duty in the forthcoming Budget brought a welcome spurt to drink shares. Allied added 2p to 67p as did Bass 8p at 207p, Grand Metropolitan 3p to 162p, Arthur Bell 6p to 170p an Distillers 3p to 181p.

News of President Reagan's proposals to de-control the price of oil saw renewed interest in oils. BP expanded

*Note the recent weakness in shares of Dreamland Electrical, where the price has dropped from 25p to as low as 17p. Brokers are worried that full-year profits, due soon, may be worse than expected, after the mild winter. Dreamland admits to a sharp drop in demand, which has put its factory on a three-day week and is likely to hit profits. The shares rose 1p to 20p yesterday.*

8p to 410p, Ultramar 5p to 488p and Lasmo 13p to 687p, but switching into Royal Dutch saw Shell 6p off at 428p. Among second-liners, KCA International rose 8p to 171p on news of its 51 per cent acquisition of Baron Oil. Clyde Petroleum was also wanted, up 65p at 760p despite denials of a gas find on the Isle of Wight.

The steadier gold price brought in buyers from the Continent and New York for mines with Anglo Am Gold up £¾ at £36⅞, St Helena £⅛ to £15⅛ and Vaal Reefs £½ to £31⅛.

**Equity turnover** on January 26 was £98.132m (15,908 bargains). The most active stocks, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Boots, BAT, GEC, Shell, ICI, De Beers, RTZ, BP, Bass, P&O, Hong Kong and Shanghai, Burmah, Charterhouse, Premier Oil, and Tricentrol.

**Traded options** had a better day with 1,186 contracts. Courtaulds April 50s and Grand Metropolitan April and July 160s were active, while Lonrho May 100s and 110s were busiest.

**Traditional options** saw calls arranged in gold shares Western Deep, East Dagga, Elsburg, and Free State Geduld at a uniformly high 15 per cent of their share prices. Puts were done in ICI at 14p.

## Latest results

| Company Int or Fin | Sales £m | Profits £m | Earnings per share | Div pence | Pay date | Year's total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Assoc Dairies (I) | 598(448) | 22.7(22.5) | 4.5(4.49) | 1.7(1.5*) | — | 3.7†(3.1*) |
| Bertrams (F) | 4.28(3.41) | 0.19§(0.08) | —(—) | —(—) | — | —(1.0) |
| Eurotherm (F) | 24.8(21.6) | 2.41(2.92) | 14.8(18.2) | 3(3) | — | 4.5(4.5) |
| Glass, Glover (F) | 37.6(30.4) | 0.65(0.53) | 5.27(4.38) | 1.6(1.4) | 1/4 | 2.1(1.85) |
| Inchcape (I) | —(—) | 39.1(31.1) | —(—) | 7.1(7.1) | 2/4 | —(18.1) |
| MFI Furn (I) | 90(56.1) | 4.9(8.0) | 2.0(3.8) | 1.1(1.1) | 2/4 | —(2.6) |
| Ben Priest (I) | 21.9(22) | 0.04(1.2) | 0.24(5.16) | 1.6(1.6) | 27/3 | —(6.79) |
| Stewart Plastics (I) | 4.17(4.25) | 1.26(1.05) | —(—) | 1.02(1.02) | 2/3 | —(2.74) |
| Town & City (I) | 18.2¶(17.5¶) | 7.75§(7.57§) | —(—) | —(—) | — | —(0.01) |
| Vantage Secs (F) | —(—) | 0.056‡ (0.055‡) | 1.01(1.05) | 0.7(0.6) | 25/3 | 1(0.9) |
| Zetters (I) | 5.88(5.1) | 0.73(0.61) | 5.39(4.5) | 0.8(0.7) | 11/4 | —(2.5) |

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. *=adjusted for scrip issue; †=forecast total; ‡=gross income; §=loss; ¶=gross income from property.

# Kangra International wins control of Renwick Group

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Kangra International Holdings has won control of Renwick Group and is making a general 85p-a-share offer, valuing the full distribution to travel agents group at £7.63m—nearly a third more than the agreed bid from AAH which lapsed earlier this month. Renwick shares closed 8p up at 86p.

Mr G. J. Beck a South African businessman, has emerged as the principal behind Kangra, an off-the-shelf Hongkong company. Mr Beck has private interests in South Africa, which include seven coal mines, property, stores and horse-breeding.

Kangra built up a 27.5 per cent stake in the Renwick voting shares just before Christmas and successive market purchases carried out by stockbrokers A. J. Bekhor. On Monday, it gained control of Renwick by buying another 2.23m shares at 35p from Uto Bank of Zurich, giving it 50.9 per cent of the voting capital. Uto Bank also acquired its shares for itself and six unrelated clients, through Bekhor.

Presented with a fait accompli, Renwick's directors, who last October agreed a 65p-a-share bid from AAH, the industrial holding company, have recommended the Kangra offer, and accepted in respect of their own shares although Renwick directors recently sold about half their shares in the market at around 73p.

Mr Kenneth Holmes, Renwick chief executive, said the board had no difficulty in recommending the offer which was a good one for shareholders. He said Mr Beck intended "to support and encourage the development of the business. He's a man who is capable of giving us considerable support internationally".

Mr Holmes said he believed that Uto Bank had bought shares on hopes that Mr John Bentley's Tebbitt Group, which once had nearly 10 per cent of Renwick, would outbid AAH. In the event, Mr Bentley is thought to have sold his shares on to Kangra.

AAH, whose bid was foiled, still retains over 10 per cent of the Renwick voting capital as well as important business links with Renwick through the jointly-owned Western Fuel. Mr William Pybus, chairman, said no decision had been taken on the Kangra offer nor had there been any contact with Mr Beck.

Kangra is making offers for Renwick preference shares on a straight conversion basis.

# Hanson Trust extends £13m bid for CMT

By Margareta Pagano

Hanson Trust yesterday extended its £13m bid for Central Manufacturing & Trading following informal indications from the Takeover Panel that rival bidder Caparo Investments should lay its terms on the table. However, neither Caparo nor its advisers, nor Robert Fleming, merchant bankers to CMT, was personally informed by the panel but received the news in a statement from Hanson Trust. A spokesman said they were "surprised".

The statement from Hanson said that the panel had requested Caparo to inform CMT shareholders by February 3 whether or not it intends to make an offer for the outstanding shares in CMT. "In these circumstances Hanson feels it is only right to extend its offer until 3 pm on Friday, February 13", it stated.

However, Mr Peter Fraser, of the panel, said last night that there had been some misunderstanding by Hanson and its bankers, N. M. Rothschild. He said they had "only informally been told that we would not be able to let this matter drift on forever". The date, he said, of the fiftieth day of the bid, February 13, had been drawn from the air and not been a precise instruction. "Inevitably, there must come a time when something must be said and they assumed we had made a precise instruction. Caparo know that we cannot let this go on forever."

Hanson received only 240,000 acceptances for its 49p cash per share offer for CMT's shares by its second closing date on Monday.

Hanson, held 13.3 per cent of CMT, when it made its first offer last November. This was shortly followed by a formal rejection document sent to shareholders by the CMT board, which described the bid as grossly undervaluing the company. Mr Roger Lewis, acting chairman, considered it "an opportunistic attempt to acquire CMT at a low point in the economic cycle". The board has consistently upheld this view and Hanson has responded with an attack on the group's assumptions of a return to profitability.

On December 3 CMT announced that an approach had been received from Caparo which might lead to an offer. Since then Caparo, the privately controlled investment group whose chairman is Mr Swraj Paul, has steadily been increasing its stake to 21.5 per cent.

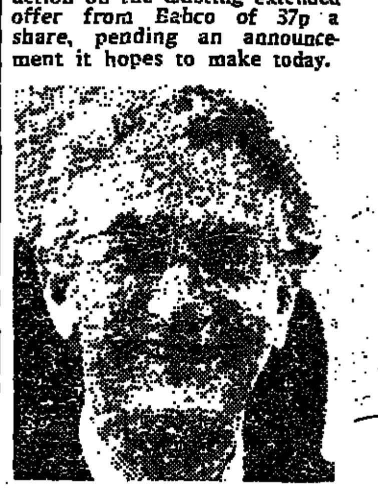
Mr Paul, who also described the Hanson offer as "mean", has indicated that terms of an agreed bid could be drawn up once it receives the additional trading figures

# Bahco hopes to agree higher bid for Record

By Catherine Gunn

Fresh talks between Sheffield tool manufacturer Record Ridgway and bidder Bahco could lead to a higher, agreed cash offer for Record today.

Record Ridgway's board announced that the talks were taking place yesterday, and advised shareholders to take no action on the existing extended offer from Bahco of 37p a share, pending an announcement it hopes to make today.



Mr Antony Hampton of Record Ridgway.

Last night Mr James Powell of Guinness Mahon, Bahco's adviser, said: "We are in discussion in an effort to find a basis on which the board of Record and their advisers could recommend a bid by us. It is hoped that we will be able to make an agreed cash offer." Bahco is the British subsidiary of Swedish tool and components manufactures A. B. Bahco.

Record Ridgway's shares jumped 6p to 43p yesterday on the news of the renewed talks, which were resumed late last week. Earlier this month they stood at a high of 46p after an unnamed rival bidder unexpectedly entered into discussionse with Record. But that bidder, said to be foreign, withdrew suddenly, upsetting the shares which on Monday this week were standing at the original Bahco offer price of 37.

That ofer valued fRecord at £4.13m and was resisted by the board as inadequate. Talks between Record and Bahco broke down in December after nine months when the two groups could not agree on the proposed price. Bahco went ahead with its offer, but acceptances totalled only 19.3 per cent.

The first offer was extended until the end of this month with the proviso that further extensions could only last until February 22.

Record Ridgway made a £262,000 pretax loss in the year to September 28, 1980.

# Eurotherm down 17pc for year

After a 13 per cent drop in half-time taxable tax profits, Eurotherm International, the control gear group based at Worthing, went on to suffer a 17 per cent fall to £2.4m over the full year to October 31. Sales, by contrast, rose 14.3 per cent to £24.8m, almost as fast as in the first six months. The ordinary dividend stays at 4.5p net or 6.44p gross with a final payment of 3p a share.

The group suffered from rapidly rising costs, high interest rates and the strength of sterling. The group sells products like industrial temperature control equipment which goes to industries suffering

Dr Jack Leonard, incoming chairman of Eurotherm.

most from the world recession. Despite this, ten of the 13 trading companies in the group, had a good year over eight more made money.

The fall in profits reflected technical problems not overcome until late in the year, while the strong pound forced the United States company to widen its margins by manufacturing more over there. Several new lines are now ready for sale; the expenditure on them fell into 1979.

This past year borrowings fell £600,000 to £3.3m. Total business is at present holding up well, but the group cannot see very far ahead. There is, however, no cause for pessimism, the board reports. At the pending annual meeting Mr Jim Hartnett steps down as chairman in favour of Dr Jack Leonard.

### UNEMPLOYMENT

Monthly figures for unemployment in the UK, published by the Department of Employment yesterday.

| | Adults (Adjusted) | % of all employees | Unadj. inc. school leavers |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1980 | | | |
| Jan. | 1.337 | 5.5 | 1.470 |
| Feb | [illegible] | 5.7 | 1.488 |
| March | 1.413 | 5.9 | 1.477 |
| April | 1.458 | 6.0 | 1.522 |
| May | 1.484 | 6.1 | 1.509 |
| June | 1.536 | 6.4 | 1.659 |
| July | 1.606 | 6.6 | 1.896 |
| Aug. | [illegible] | 7.0 | 2.001 |
| Sept. | 1.784 | 7.4 | 2.039 |
| Oct. | 1.893 | 7.8 | 2.063 |
| Nov. | 2.029 | 8.4 | 2.163 |
| Dec. | 2.133 | 8.8 | 2.244 |
| 1981 | | | |
| Jan. | 2.236 | 9.3 | 2,419 |

### REGIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT

Seasonally adjusted (excluding school leavers)

| | Number | Change in month | % of all employees |
|---|---|---|---|
| South East | 476.3 | +23.8 | 6.3 |
| East Anglia | 54.1 | +2.8 | 7.5 |
| South West | 136.6 | +4.3 | 8.3 |
| W. Midlands | 246.5 | +16.4 | 10.6 |
| E. Midlands | 134.8 | +6.0 | 8.4 |
| Yorkshire & Humberside | 206.7 | +10.9 | 9.8 |
| N. West | 330.1 | +13.9 | 11.2 |
| North | 171.9 | +7.2 | 12.4 |
| Wales | 133.5 | +4.9 | 12.3 |
| Scotland | [illegible] | +6.2 | 11.2 |
| Britain | 2,145.0 | +99.7 | 9.1 |
| N Ireland | 90.9 | +2.9 | 15.8 |
| United Kingdom | 2,235.9 | +102.6 | 9.3 |

# Town & City interim loss higher

Town and City Properties' pretax loss was slightly higher, at £7.75m, in the half-year to September 28, 1980, compared with a loss of £7.57m last time.

Net income from property rose from £3.16m to £4.27m and income from other sources from £3.36m to £3.55m, making a total of £7.82m, against £6.52m. However, interest payable grew from £14.1m to £15.57m.

Since last July, a further £19m of property has been sold with a book value of £14m. This brings the total of sales since March last year to £21m, with a book value of £15m. As last year, there is no interim dividend.

## Dundonian to buy Planned Savings

Surrey-based Dundonian Ltd, which is in property development, natural resources and public services, is to buy Planned Savings (Holdings). This company provides management services, including life assurance, administrative pensions and investment management, to companies, trusts, pension funds, friendly societies and private clients. The price is £1m—£350,000 cash and 812,500 ordinary shares in Dundonian, to be issued at 80p each.

Planned Savings' pretax profits for 1980 were about £105,000. The takeover will considerably enhance Dundonian's finance and insurance interests and will create a stronger financial services division—with funds under management of more than £25m—in balance with other group activities.

## Record profit again from Glass, Glover

Record results are once again reported by the Glass, Glover Group, the food distributor and importer of fresh fruit and vegetables. In the 12 months to September 30, 1980, pretax profits rose by 23.5 per cent to a record £659,000. roup turnover expanded from £30.43m to £37.63m.

Turnover and profits have risen to fresh records each year since 1976 and have doubled in that period. The total gross dividend is being raise from 2.64p to 3p.

## Zetters up a fifth at half-time

Zetters, the pools and bingo group, reports a 19.8 per cent rise in pretax profits to £737,000 for the half-year to September 30. This was achieved on turnover 15.4 per cent higher at £5.88m, after deducting payments to pools winners and betting tax totalling £6.12m, against £5.39m last time. The interim payment is being lifted from 1.07p gross to 1.21p.

Zetters' board, headed by Mr Paul Zetter, reports that almost the whole of the profits increase is attributed to the pools division.

# KCA consolidates US interests with £3m deal

By Margareta Pagano

KCA International yesterday expanded its United States oil programme with its acquisition of a 51 per cent interest in the Texas-based oil and gas development company Baron Oil.

KCA paid $1m for the 51 per cent stake in Baron and has provided a further $7m (a total of £3.33m) of working capital in partnership with the Royal Bank of Canada (London). KCA has the option to acquire full ownership of the company.

The deal ties together the group's United States interests, said Mr Paul Bristol, KCA's chairman, who has previously indicated that he wants to see KCA on at least an equal footing with the giants of the United States oil and gas finance houses.

By purchasing Baron, KCA is consolidating its United States activities under one roof. The group's two drilling wells, which are on contract in North Dakota and Montana, are worth about $12m and will be transferred for use at Baron's reserves.

Baron estimates that its reserves will yield, over eight years, some $118m in gross revenue.

KCA's shares gained 13p to 176p on the news. Forecasts for the year to December, 1980, are for £3.5m to £4m of pretax profits.

# Rights issue for SPO Minerals

SPO Minerals, the mining company launched last year, plans to raise £482,000 from a one-for-four rights issue and use the proceeds to buy Doe Lea Colliery in Derbyshire. The new shares are to be offered at 105p each.

At the same time, SPO announced that it has sold for £187,500 its 5 per cent stake in Carnon Consolidated Tin Mines, which owns the Wheal Jane mine in Cornwall. The stake was sold to Rio Tinto Zinc, which now controls all of the equity.

SPO will be paying £373,000 for Doe Lea, which is one of the larger private coal producers in Britain licensed by the National Coal Board.

## Briefly

**Premier Consolidated Oilfields:** Conroy Petroleum and Natural Resources and Premier have agreed to form a consortium which will apply for exclusive exploration licences in offshore Irish waters. Both Premier and Conroy not only will seek blocks under the proposed second round of licensing offshore Ireland, but also may seek allocations of blocks under the "open-door" approach to the Department of Energy.

**Arthur Lee & Sons:** Mr P. W. Lee, chairman, reports in his annual statement that the trading situation remains depressed. It does seem possible, he says, that the low point in order intake was in October and there has been some slight improvement since then. Nevertheless, the current half-year is likely to be "very unsatisfactory".

**Reo Stakis Organisation:** Mr Reo Stakis, the chairman, reports that trading in the first few months of 1980-81 has been very difficult, although certain areas of business seem to be confounding the general trend. He is confident that even if the group is affected in the short-term by the recession, it will continue to prosper and be successful.

**Stewart Plastics:** Turnover for half-year to October 31, 1980, £4.17m (£4.25m). Pretax profits £1.26m (£1.05m), including interest receivable of £362,000 (£262,000). Interim dividend unchanged.

**Vantage Securities:** Gross income for 1980, £56,000 (£55,000). Total dividend, 1.42p (1.28p) gross.

**Bertrams:** Turnover for year to September 28, 1980, £4.28m (£3.41m). Pretax loss, £194,000 (against profit of £86,000). No dividend (1.49p gross last year).

**Local Authority Bonds:** Interest rate on this week's issues of Local Authority yearling bonds is 13¼ per cent. Issue price is 100. (Last week 13⅞ per cent at 100).

**Hambro Trust** (the company's principal asset comprises shares Hambros Limited): The increase in dividends receivable during the half year to December 31, 1980, mainly from Hambros Limited, has resulted in an increase in the amount available for ordinary shareholders to £207,000, compared with last year £(157,000). The directors have therefore decided to increase the rate of interim dividend to 1.35p per share (net) on the £1 (25p paid) and 25p (fully paid) ordinary shares, compared with 1p per share last year.

**Selkirk firm gets City backing:** An agreement in principle has been reached for Charterhouse Development Capital to purchase a minority shareholding in R. & W. McDonald Construction for £175,000. This Selkirk-based civil engineering contractor is currently owned by Mr and Mrs K. J. McDonald. McDonald Construction, which is involved in a wide variety of civil engineering projects including drainage schemes, pipe-laying and road work in Southern Scotland, intends using the proceeds of this sum to develop its activities in Central Scotland.

# Benjamin Priest slumps

By Catherine Gunn

Mr Charles Wardle, chairman of Midlands components manufacturer Benjamin Priest & Sons (Holdings), has warned shareholders to expect a halved annual dividend for the year to March 31 in the light of an interim profits collapse from £1.21m to just £40,000 before tax.

The present, final quarter, is usually the group's best trading period and the full year outcome depends heavily upon it.

The interim dividend has been maintained but the total payout is likely to be no more than 4.85p gross against 9.71p. Redundancy costs approaching £250,000 have been provided for in the first half and none are expected in the second.

With poor demand since the summer Benjamin Priest has concentrated on tightening its manufacturing base in readiness for any upturn. Interim trading profits fell by 60 per cent to £633,000 and interest charges totalled £593,000, up 57 per cent. Turnover was static at £22m.

Property disposals outside the group's Midlands operations are underway and there is scope for further sales if necessary. Mr Wardle is taking a cautious view of the future but expects the group's widespread of small-scale operations to recover rapidly when the automotive and civil engineering industries it serves start to recover.

# Exxon Corporation income clipped in last quarter

Exxon corporation's fourth quarter net income was 1.1 per cent down at $1,350m (£562m) or $3.12 a share on total revenue of $29,847m.

In the 1979 fourth quarter, net income was $1,356m or $3.10 a share.

The decline in net income was attributed to lower operating earnings which were partly offset by increased gains on foreign exchange translations.

For the whole of 1980 net income was $5,660m against $4,290m on revenues, at $110,470m against $84,970m.

## International

Commenting on the fourth quarter operating earnings Mr C. C. Garvin, chairman, said: "Most significantly foreign petroleum and natural gas earnings were down due to higher exploration costs as well as lower demand and margins on petroleum product sales".

# Video boom aids TDK

TDK Electronics Co, Japan's top manufacturer of ferrites and magnetic tapes, has reported record consolidated earnings for the year to November 30, after a brisk increase in sales of all products and a jump in exports.

TDK officials said that net profits were 21,273m yen (£43.68m), a 35.8 per cent jump from 15,666m yen a year before.

Sales rose to 214,773m yen, up 36.9 per cent from 156,892m yen in the preceding year.

Earnings per common share rose to 208.39 yen from 156.01 yen.

The record earnings came against the backdrop of an upsurge in demand for video tape recorders. TDK officials noted that VTR production in the Japanese electronics industry doubled in 1980 and, with it, their company's VTR-related products showed a sharp sales increase.

## Bank Base Rates

| | |
|---|---|
| ABN Bank | 14% |
| Barclays | 14% |
| BCCI | 14% |
| Consolidated Crdts | 14% |
| C. Hoare & Co | *14% |
| Lloyds Bank | 14% |
| Midland Bank | 14% |
| Nat Westminster | 14% |
| Rossminster | 14% |
| TSB | 14% |
| Williams and Glyn's | 14% |

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 11½%, up to £50,000 12%, over £50,000 12¼%.

# Marine underwriters see another bleak year ahead

By Richard Allen, Insurance Correspondent

Rocked by three years of heavy losses, marine underwriters in the London insurance market still see little hope of recovery in the near future.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Institute of London Underwriters yesterday, Mr Geoffrey Merriman, the chairman, claimed that some underwriters are now making losses even after taking into account investment income earned on premiums. "It is a bleak outlook for 1981", he said.

The ILU, which represents the company side of the marine insurance market in London, actually reported a significant decline in overall merchant shipping tonnage lost from 2.3m tons gross in 1979 to 1.8m tons last year.

But the institute claims that despite the decline, underwriters probably will end up paying out more in claims, mainly as a result of inflation, while the cumulative effects of three years' "disastrous casualty experience" have yet to be quantified.

The cost to the London market of last year's losses has been unofficially estimated at around £500m, split almost equally between the company market and Lloyd's.

Mr Merriman said that the market was still dogged by over-capacity resulting from new competition keeping rates at an unviable level.



## The Over-the-Counter Market

| 1980/81 High | Low | Company | Price | Ch'ge | Gross Div(p) | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 75 | 39 | Airsprung Group | 65 | — | 6.7 | 10.3 | 5.9 |
| 44 | 21 | Armitage & Rhodes | 44 | +1 | 1.4 | 3.2 | 18.1 |
| 192 | 92½ | Bardon Hill | 189 | — | 9.7 | 5.1 | 7.1 |
| 87 | 38 | County Cars Pref | 38 | — | — | — | — |
| 98 | 88 | Deborah Services | 96 | — | 5.5 | 5.7 | 4.8 |
| 126 | 88 | Frank Horsell | 113 | −1 | 6.4 | 5.7 | 3.5 |
| 110 | 56 | Frederick Parker | 56 | — | 11.0 | 19.6 | 2.6 |
| 110 | 74 | George Blair | 78 | — | 3.1 | 4.0 | — |
| 110 | 59 | Jackson Group | 108 | +1 | 6.9 | 6.4 | 4.1 |
| 124 | 103 | James Burrough | 120 | +1 | 7.9 | 6.6 | 9.8 |
| 334 | 244 | Robert Jenkins | 331 | — | 31.3 | 9.5 | — |
| 53 | 50 | Scruttons 'A' | 53 | — | 5.3 | 10.0 | 3.8 |
| 224 | 216 | Torday Limited | 216 | −1 | 15.1 | 7.0 | 3.7 |
| 23 | 10 | Twinlock Ord | 12½ | — | — | — | — |
| 90 | 69 | Twinlock 15% ULS | 76 | — | 15.0 | 19.7 | — |
| 56 | 35 | Unilock Holdings | 37 | +1 | 3.0 | 8.1 | 5.7 |
| 102 | 81 | Walter Alexander | 101 | — | 5.7 | 5.6 | 5.6 |
| 256 | 181 | W. S. Yeates | 256 | +2 | 12.1 | 4.7 | 4.2 |

Business appointments

# Development director for Tarmac

Mr Bob Taylor has become business development director of Tarmac Industrial Holdings.

Mr C. V. Newbold has been elected chairman of Foster Wheeler Limited, Foster Wheeler's new holding company. Mr T. M. Evans becomes secretary. Mr A. J. Clayton, Mr K. A. De Ghetto, Mr D. R. Gray, Mr J. T. Kelley and Mr F. A. Lee are directors. All but Mr Clayton are also on the board of Foster Wheeler Energy, of which Mr Newbold is the chairman. Other directors are Mr J. A. Bunn, Mr E. D. Hibbert, Mr J. C. Lucas, Mr A. J. McKerracher, Mr J. Rawsden, Mr R. D. Wass and Mr J. E. Williams.

Mr John G. A. Irish will become managing director of Spar (UK) on May 1.

Mr Michael Andrews has joined Wilsons Manchester Brewery as innkeeper director.

Mr Harry Shepherd has been appointed the first director of the Oxford Street Association.

Dr B. F. Willetts has become a director of Telephone Rentals.

Mr Stuart J. Hickey has been made an additional director of Telefusion.

Mr G. B. Binding joined the board of W. and J. Glossop.

Mr F. J. Briggs has become a director of Williams and James (Engineers).

Mr G. M. Simmonds and Mr R. L. Owen are appointed to the board of Bremar Trust.

Mr Eric Spearing and Mr John Harding have joined the main board of James Clark & Eaton.

Mr R. E. Tozer is now a director of Guinness Mahon & Co.

Mr C. K. R. Nanneley has been appointed chairman of the United States and General Trust Corporation in place of Mr W. R. Merton who has retired from the board.

Mr M. C. Stoddart, the deputy chairman of Electra Investment Trust will also become chief executive on February 1 and Mr M. E. D'A. Walton will join the board.

Mr Michael E. Kolsey has been appointed chairman and chief executive of Crouse-Hinds (UK).

Mr John Baring has become a non-executive director of Dunlop Holdings. Mr A. T. Harvey is now an executive director and Mr Jeremy F. Lever has resigned from the board.

Mr G. A. Keith Wilkinson has become director of Ferranti Measurements.

Mr Wallace P. Dunlap has been appointed managing director of Morgan Berkeley and Company, succeeding Mr Barry Cullum who becomes managing director of Benmar Marketing and Supply.

Mr Peter Ross has joined the board of DCI (Scotland).

Mr Michael C. Seaman has been appointed financial director of Hanger Investments. He remains company secretary.

Mr Roger Childs has joined the board of Expanded Metal Co as group managing director in succession to Mr R. D. Scott who has retired.

Mr John Hudd, manager of National Provincial Glass Company, has been made a director.

Mr Robin MacKichan has joined Aquascutum and becomes director and chief executive of Aquascutum International.

Mr David Wood has been appointed national manager for the hire and sales division of Stephens & Carter.

Mr William Keyser, Mr Midi Berry, and Mr David Mabbs have joint the board of ODI.

Mr Bob Lloyd-Jones will become director general of the Retail Consortium on May 1.

Mr Peter Vickers has become group executive—Middle East of the Ewbank Consulting Group, based in Abu Dhabi.

Mr David Rutherfordd has been reelected chairman of the Wine Development Board for 1981. Mr Michael Dawson, of Cockburn and Co (Leith), and Mr Philip Wetz, of Unwins have also joined the board.

Mr Keith S. Bales has been made vice president, character merchandise licensing, publications, music publishing and records of Walt Disney Productions (UK).

The Chloride Group's automotive and industrial battery operations in Europe are to be combined from March 2 under the chairmanship of Mr Ken Hodgson, a main board director and chairman of overseas operations. Mr David Burnet will finish his secondment from Chloride Batteries Australia to coordinate Chloride Group as chairman of automotive operations in Europe, and reign as a director of Chloride Group. Mr Michael Sharman, the chairman of industrial operations in Europe and a main board director, becomes director of finance and central services. Mr David Cochrane, executive vice-chairman and finance director, who plans to retire in May, 1982, will work directly with the chief executive.

Mr G. E. Hardwick has been appointed director of marketing for Dunlop's United Kingdom tyre group. He is succeeded as director and general manager, replacement division by Mr G. D. Radford.

Mr Graham S. Clarke has been appointed group financial director of Fairey Holdings.

Mr W. Leonard Hyde has been elected president of the London Permanent Building Society. He succeeds Mr J. Malcolm Barr.

# MARKET REPORTS

## Commodities

COPPER was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £761-62 a metric ton; three months, £783.50-84. Sales, 2,475. Cash cathodes, £761-63; three months, £771-71.50. Sales, 125 tons (mainly carries). Morning.—Cash wire bars, £762-62.50; three months, £784.50-85. Settlement, £762.50. Sales, 8,800 tons. Cash cathodes, £752.50-53.50; three months, £771-72. Settlement, £753.50. Sales, 2,325 tons (mainly carries).

TIN standard was steady.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £5,760-70 a tonne; three months, £5,910-15. Sales, 225 tonnes. High grade, cash £5,760-70; three months £5,910-15. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard cash, £5,750-60; three months, £5,890-99. Settlement, £5,870. Sales, 520 tonnes (mainly carries). High grade, cash £5,750-60; three months, £5,890-99. Settlement, £5,760. Sales, nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works, $M130.18 a picul.

LEAD was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £280-81 per tonne; three months, £292-92.50. Sales, 5,175 tonnes (mainly carries). Morning.—Cash, £280.50-81.50; three months, £292.50-93. Settlement, £281.50. Sales, 6,700 tonnes.

ZINC was barely steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £310-11 per tonne; three months, £322-22.50. Sales, 8,900 tonnes (mainly carries). Morning.—Cash, £311-12; three months, £324-25. Settlement, £312. Sales, 5,400 tonnes (mainly carries).

PLATINUM was at £194.40 ($468.00) a troy ounce.

SILVER was barely steady.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot 559.10p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 1353.50); three months 578.40p (1415.90c); six months, 579.30p (1470.30c); one year 636.50p (1574.10). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash 599-60p; three months 577-77.5p. Sales, 51 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 561-62p; three months, 580.5-81.5p. Settlement, 562p. Sales, 77 lots (mainly carries).

ALUMINIUM was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £578-80 per tonne; three months, £598.50-99. Sales, 2,100 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £575-77; three months, £596-96.50. Settlement, £577. Sales, 4,150 tonnes.

NICKEL was firmer.—Afternoon.—Cash, £2655-60 per tonne; three months, £2615-20. Sales, 138 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £2650-60; three months, £2610-20. Settlement, £2660. Sales, 114 tonnes (about half carries).

RUBBER was uncertain after being steadier (pence per kilo).—March, 57.20-57.40; April, 58.20-58.70; April-June, 59.50-59.60; July-Sept, 62.60-62.70; Oct-Dec, 65.60-65.70; Jan-March, 68.50-68.60; April-June, 71.50-71.60; July-Sept, 74.50-74.80; Oct-Dec, 77.60-77.70. Sales, three at five tonnes; 321 at 15 tonnes.

RUBBER PHYSICALS were steadier (all pence per kilo).—Spot 55.50-56.50; Cifs, March, 60.50-61.00, April, 60.75-61.25.

COFFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): Jan, 960-969; March, 990-992; May, 1,005-1,006; July, 1,018-1,020; Sept, 1,028-1,035; Nov, 1,030-1,045; Jan, 1,020-1,065. Sales: 3,055 lots including five options.

ARABICA (officials at 1,645)—Feb, 142.00-44.00; April, 143.00-45.00; June, 142.10-42.50; Aug, 143.50-47.00; Oct, 143.50-48.00; Dec, 142.50-48.00; Feb, 142.50-47.00.

COCOA was steady.—(£ per metric ton).—March, 855-56; May, 860-61; July, 886-87; Sept, 907-08; Dec, 938-39; March, 965-66; May, 982-86. Sales: 2,001 lots.

SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £8 higher at £275.00, the "whites" price was £3 higher at £302.00. Futures were weak (£ per tonne): March, 288.50-88.75; May, 288.25-89.00; Aug, 283.56-83.75; Oct, 278.00-78.20; Jan, 258.00-60.00; March, 256.00-56.00; May 251.00-50.00. ISA prices (Jan 26): daily, 27.52c; 15-day average, 27.97c.

SOYABEAN MEAL was slightly easier (£ per tonne): Feb, 115.00-15.40; April, 131.80-22.00; June, 123.00-25.30; Aug, 124.80-26.00; Oct, 124.00-26.00; Dec, 135.50-27.00; Feb, 127.00-29.00. Sales 162 lots.

WOOL (cents per kilo). NZ CROSSBREDS No 2 contract was quiet: Jan, 348 one only; March, 358-363; May, 360-365; Aug, 369-374; Oct, 376-380; Dec, 376-382; Jan, 378-384; March, 383-86; May, 384-388. Sales 4 lots.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—WHEAT.—Canadian western red spring No. 1 13½ per cent was unquoted; US dark northern spring No 2 14 per cent Feb, £107.75; March, £107.75. Trans-shipment east coast: US hard winter 13½ per cent, Feb, £102.75; March, £105. Trans-shipment east coast. EEC was unquoted; English feed fob April, £115.50 east coast.

MAIZE: French Jan £121; Feb, £122.50 east coast; S. Africa yellow Feb/March £89.50.

BARLEY: English feed fob April £105 east coast. (All per tonne cif UK unless stated.)

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.—BARLEY was steady: March, £98.50; May, £102.30; Sept, £95.05; Nov, £98.95. Sales: 93 lots. WHEAT was steady: March, £107.95; May, £112.10; July, £116.15; Sept, £100.20; Nov, £104.05. Sales: 184 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

| | Other milling WHEAT | Feed WHEAT | Feed BARLEY |
|---|---|---|---|
| S East | — | £103.40 | £95.60 |
| S West | — | — | £96.70 |
| W Midlands | — | £102.90 | £93.70 |
| N West | — | £104.90 | £96.30 |

MEAT COMMISSION.—Average fatstock prices at representative markets on Jan 27: GB cattle 83.80p per kg lw (−1.13); UK sheep 138.57p per kg lw est dcw (+0.68); GB pigs 65.04p per kg lw (−1.01). England and Wales: Cattle numbers down 1.2 per cent, average price 83.41p (−0.94); Sheep numbers down 10.8 per cent, average price 137.97p (+2.05); Pig numbers up 19.5 per cent, average price 64.97p (−1.16); Scotland: Cattle numbers up 16.9 per cent, average price 84.99p (−2.05); Sheep numbers up 45.0 per cent, average price 139.56p (−2.06); Pig numbers up 10.7 per cent, average price 66.32p (+0.57).

POTATOES (Gafta).—Feb, £45.50; April £56.90; Nov, £54.00. Sales 215 (all of 40 tonnes each).

EGGS.—The London Egg Exchange: In home-produced: A very balanced market with the smaller sizes the best feature. Imported: The ECC appears similar; however, there is a slight easing at some levels.

Home-produced market prices (in £ per 120, based on trading packer/first-hand):

| | Wed/Thur/Fri | Mon/Tues |
|---|---|---|
| Brown | | |
| 1's | 5.20 to 5.40 | 5.20 to 5.40 |
| 2's | 4.80 to 5.00 | 4.80 to 5.00 |
| 3's | 4.60 to 4.75 | 4.60 to 4.75 |
| 4's | 4.30 to 4.50 | 4.40 to 4.50 |
| White | | |
| 1's | 5.10 to 5.20 | 5.10 to 5.20 |
| 2's | 4.70 to 4.80 | 4.70 to 4.80 |
| 3's | 4.50 to 4.60 | 4.50 to 4.60 |
| 4's | 4.30 to 4.40 | 4.30 to 4.40 |
| 5's | 3.90 to 4.10 | 4.00 to 4.10 |
| 6's | 3.60 to 3.80 | 3.70 to 3.80 |
| 7's | 3.00 to 3.10 | 3.00 to 3.15 |

All prices quoted are for bulk delivery in Keyes trays. The above range is a guide to general market conditions and is dependent upon location, quantity and whether delivered or not.

TEA.—Demand was good and general. Plainer Assams tended lower but brighter lines were firm to dearer.

Sylhets were well supported with clean brighter kinds gaining 4p to 8p a kilo. Bright Africans were firm to dearer.

Mediums and plainer types were 2p to 4p a kilo dearer. Dusts were a strong feature throughout.

There was a strong and active demand for Ceylons which were irregularly dearer. Useful liquoring teas were a feature of the sale and often substantially dearer.

South India was in strong demand particularly for better quality teas which were dearer.

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Moracrest Investments, the equity finance company owned by British Gas Central Pension Funds, Midland Bank and The Prudential, announced new investments totalling £1.78m (1979—£1.05m) in their third full year of trading, at their annual general meeting. Mr Jack Smith, chairman of Moracrest, said: "These are encouraging results, bearing in mind the present economic climate, that have again enabled an ordinary dividend to be paid. Since our year-end, a further £790,000 of investments have been made bringing our broadly based portfolio to £5.8m. The portfolio now includes investments based on more flexible criteria than previously adopted, in particular management buy-outs."

## Discount market

Houses had a pretty comfortable session yesterday and the Bank of England mopped up surplus funds on a small scale by selling Treasury Bills to banks and houses.

Rates for secured money held within bonds of 13 per cent and 13¼ per cent, but drifted off in the afternoon so that books were closed within a band of 12½ - 13 per cent.

## Foreign exchange report

The dollar surged ahead in late trading yesterday to close at its best levels of the day on moderately active foreign exchange markets.

News of the ending of price controls on domestic oil and other United States Government measures including tax and spending cuts put the dollar well ahead in terms of the pound which earlier on had held a firm position.

At the close sterling showed a 1.175 cent fall at 2.40475 compared with 2.4165 overnight.

At one stage during the morning sterling had leaked around 2.4130. As measured by its closing effective exchange index of 81.2 (overnight 81.0) the pound was still strong against major continental currencies.

Earlier on, the pound gained further upward impetus from its petrocurrency status and the high levels of United Kingdom interest rates prevailing.

## Sterling: Spot and Forward

| | Market rates (day's range) January 27 | Market rates (close) January 27 | 1 month | 3 months |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| New York | $2.4000-4330 | $2.4040-4055 | .95-1.05c disc | 2.50-2.60c disc |
| Montreal | $2.8620-8810 | $2.8640-8655 | .75-.85c disc | 2.15-2.30c disc |
| Amsterdam | 5.37½-42½fl | 5.38½-40½fl | 2½-1½c prem | 6¼-5¼c prem |
| Brussels | 79.60-80.05f | 79.80-90f | 30-10c prem | 44-34c prem |
| Copenhagen | 15.24-31k | 15.29½-30½k | 425-285ore prem | 305-115ore prem |
| Dublin | 1.3240-3335p | 1.3295-3305p | 17-3p prem | 38-18p prem |
| Frankfurt | 4.95-5.00m | 4.97-98m | 2½-1½pf prem | 6-5pf prem |
| Lisbon | 130.90-132.10e | 131.00-30e | 11c prem-55c disc | 14-205c disc |
| Madrid | 196.00-197.35p | 196.10-196.20p | 5c prem-86c disc | 170-260c disc |
| Milan | 2354-65lr | 2357-58lr | 8-10lr disc | 24½-27½lr disc |
| Oslo | 12.90-97k | 13.92¾-93¾k | 245-70ore prem | 405-225ore prem |
| Paris | 11.43-49f | 11.47½-48½f | 4½-3½c prem | 9-8c prem |
| Stockholm | 10.85-93k | 10.86½-87½k | 995-1095ore disc | 2905-3005ore disc |
| Tokyo | 485-95y | 486½-87½y | 315-245y prem | 725-685y prem |
| Vienna | 35.10-30sch | 35.25-30sch | 15-12gro prem | 39-34gro prem |
| Zurich | 4.46-51f | 4.49-50f | 3½-2½c prem | 9-8c prem |

Effective exchange rate compared to December 21, 1971, was up 0.1% to 81.2%.

## Other Markets

| | |
|---|---|
| Australia | 2.0435-2.0585 |
| Bahrein | 0.9105-0.9135 |
| Finland | 9.4820-9.5220 |
| Greece | 115.40-117.40 |
| Hongkong | 12.6280-12.6680 |
| Iran | Not available |
| Kuwait | 0.6570-0.6800 |
| Malaysia | 5.3385-5.3885 |
| Mexico | 55.85-57.85 |
| New Zealand | 2.5080-2.5280 |
| Saudi Arabia | 8.0470-8.0770 |
| Singapore | 5.01-5.04 |
| South Africa | 1.8085-1.8235 |

## Indices

| | Bank of England Index | Morgan Guaranty Changes % |
|---|---|---|
| Sterling | 81.2 | −22.8 |
| US dollar | 88.0 | −5.3 |
| Canadian dollar | 79.9 | −18.4 |
| Schilling | 144.0 | +21.9 |
| Belgian franc | 110.4 | +10.4 |
| Danish kroner | 99.5 | −8.8 |
| Deutsche mark | 143.1 | +37.5 |
| Swiss franc | 184.4 | +74.8 |
| Guilder | 121.6 | +16.7 |
| French franc | 94.9 | −8.8 |
| Lira | 49.2 | −53.1 |
| Yen | 146.8 | +43.8 |

Based on trade-weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971. (Bank of England Index 100).

## Dollar Spot Rates

| | |
|---|---|
| * Ireland | 1.8070-1.8110 |
| † Canada | 1.1908-1.1911 |
| Netherlands | 2.2460-2.2490 |
| Belgium | 32.15-32.20 |
| Denmark | 6.3620-6.3820 |
| West Germany | 2.0710-2.0730 |
| Portugal | 54.45-54.55 |
| Spain | 81.90-82.00 |
| Italy | 979-982.00 |
| Norway | 5.3830-5.3850 |
| France | 4.7650-4.7680 |
| Sweden | 4.52-4.54 |
| Japan | 202.50-202.70 |
| Austria | 14.67-14.69 |
| Switzerland | 1.8700-1.8730 |

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8407-0.8410

## Money Market Rates

Bank of England MLR 14%
(Last changed 24/11/80)

Clearing Banks Base Rate 14%

Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: High 13½ Low 12½

Week Fixed: 13¼-13½

**Treasury Bills (Dis%)**

| Buying | | Selling | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2 months | 12⅞ | 2 months | 12⅝ |
| 3 months | 12$^{13}/_{16}$ | 3 months | 12$^{11}/_{16}$ |

**Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2 months | 13$^{15}/_{32}$-13⅜ | 3 months | 14 |
| 3 months | 13$^{5}/_{16}$-13 | 4 months | 13¼ |
| 4 months | 13-12⅞ | 6 months | 13⅛ |
| 6 months | 12$^{25}/_{32}$-12$^{11}/_{16}$ | | |

**Local Authority Bonds**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 month | 15¼-15½ | 7 months | — |
| 2 months | 15⅛-15⅞ | 8 months | — |
| 3 months | 14⅞-14⅝ | 9 months | 13⅞-13⅝ |
| 4 months | 14⅞-14½ | 10 months | — |
| 5 months | 14½-13⅞ | 11 months | — |
| 6 months | 14-13¾ | 12 months | 13½-13¼ |

**Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 month | 14$^{7}/_{16}$-14$^{5}/_{16}$ | 6 months | 13$^{3}/_{16}$-13$^{1}/_{16}$ |
| 3 months | 14$^{1}/_{32}$-13$^{15}/_{16}$ | 12 months | 13$^{1}/_{16}$-12$^{15}/_{16}$ |

**Local Authority Market (%)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2 days | 14⅞ | 3 months | 14⅛ |
| 7 days | 14½ | 6 months | 13⅝ |
| 1 month | 14½ | 1 year | 13⅛ |

**Interbank Market (%)**

Overnight: Open 14½-14¼ Close 12

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 week | 14⅝-14¼ | 6 months | 13$^{3}/_{16}$-13$^{7}/_{16}$ |
| 1 month | 14$^{9}/_{16}$-14$^{7}/_{16}$ | 9 months | 13$^{7}/_{16}$-13$^{5}/_{16}$ |
| 3 months | 14$^{1}/_{16}$-13$^{15}/_{16}$ | 12 months | 13$^{5}/_{16}$-13$^{3}/_{16}$ |

**First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)**
3 months 14$^{9}/_{16}$-14$^{7}/_{16}$ 6 months 14$^{1}/_{16}$-13$^{15}/_{16}$

Finance House Base Rate 15½%

## EMS Currency Rates

| | ECU central rates | currency against ECU | % change from central rate† | % change adjusted†* | divergence limit % plus/minus |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Belgian franc | 39.7897 | 41.6444 | +4.66 | +0.54 | 1.53 |
| Danish krone | 7.7236 | 7.99295 | +3.49 | −0.63 | 1.64 |
| German D-mark | 2.48208 | 2.59591 | +4.59 | +0.47 | 1.125 |
| French franc | 5.84700 | 5.98366 | +2.34 | −1.78 | 1.3557 |
| Dutch guilder | 2.74362 | 2.81944 | +2.76 | −1.36 | 1.512 |
| Irish punt | 0.668201 | 0.693334 | +3.76 | −0.36 | 1.665 |
| Italian lira | 1157.79 | 1232.91 | +6.49 | +2.37 | 4.08 |

† changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times.

## Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 18½-19½; seven days, 18⅝-18⅞; one month, 19$^{9}/_{16}$-19$^{13}/_{16}$; three months, 18$^{5}/_{16}$-18$^{9}/_{16}$; six months, 17$^{1}/_{16}$-17$^{5}/_{16}$.

## Gold

Gold fixed: am, $517 (an ounce); pm, $524 close, $517.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $531-534 (£220.5-221.75).
Sovereigns (new): $130.5-132.5 (£54.25-55.25).

## Wall Street

New York, Jan 27.—Stocks on the New York Stock Exchange closed near their best levels on the day when a late rally overcame a period of easiness during the afternoon.

The Dow Jones industrial average finished with a gain of 10.58 to 949.49 for the first higher closing since January 16 when it was up 3.32 to 973.29, an 11-point gain before a reaction set in. Advances led declines by 942 to 544, with 394 issues unchanged. The NYSE composite index rose 0.74 to 75.19, and the average price per share was up 35 cents. Volume rose to 42,260,000 shares from 35,380,000 on Monday.

Exxon Corporation reported flat fourth quarter net but rose ½ to 77½. Active Texaco rebounded from recent weakness, adding 1½ to 43½. Standard Oil Company (Indiana) raised its dividend and climbed two to 73½.

Consolidated Edison Company of New York raised its dividend and picked up ¼ to 24½ despite lower fourth quarter net. Procter and Gamble lost ⅜ to 67½ despite news of higher fiscal second quarter earnings.

Active IBM gained ⅜ to 65⅞, American Telephone ⅛ to 51. General Motors ⅛ to 44⅜, General Electric c to 62⅝, Du Pont 1¼ to 42 and Eastman Kodak ⅞ to 71½.

Southern Railway gained one to 76½. Santa Fe Industries climbed 2⅜ to 96½.

Volume leader Federal National Mortgage gained 1/4 to 10¼. Culbro climbed 3½ to 16. Sandoz of Basle agreed to buy Culbro's pharmaceutical business for $94.

Merrill Lynch rose ½ to 33⅜ and E. F. Hutton 1⅝ to 27⅞. Both reported sharply higher fourth quarter profit.

| | Jan 27 | Jan 26 |
|---|---|---|
| Allied Chem | 30⅝ | 48½ |
| Allied Stores | 21¼ | 21¼ |
| Allis Chalmers | 33⅝ | 34 |
| Alcoa | 60⅝ | 61⅛ |
| Amax Inc | 42⅛ | 41 |
| Amerada Hess | 40⅝ | 41 |
| Am Airlines | 9⅞ | 10 |
| Am Brands | 77½ | 77½ |
| Am Broadcast | 28⅜ | 27⅝ |
| Am Can | 29⅝ | 29⅛ |
| Am Cyanamid | 29½ | 29⅛ |
| Am Elec Power | 16⅝ | 16⅝ |
| Am Home | 30⅛ | 29⅝ |
| Am Motors | 4⅛ | 4 |
| Am Nat Res | 47¼ | 46⅞ |
| Am Standard | 33 | 32⅝ |
| Am Telephone | 51 | 50⅞ |
| AMP Inc | 22 | 21½ |
| Armco Steel | 34⅞ | 34½ |
| Asarco | 37⅞ | 36⅞ |
| Ashland Oil | 30½ | 30 |
| Atlantic Richfield | 62 | 59⅛ |
| Avco | 27⅛ | 27 |
| Avon Products | 32⅞ | 30⅞ |
| Bankers Tst NY | 30⅝p | 62 |
| Bank of America | 27⅞ | 27⅞ |
| Bank of NY | 34½ | 35 |
| Beatrice Foods | 18 | 18 |
| Bendix | 54½ | 54¼ |
| Bethlehem Steel | 24⅞ | 23 |
| Boeing | 40⅞ | 40⅜ |
| Boise Cascade | 33⅝ | 33⅛ |
| Borden | 28⅝ | 28⅝ |
| Borg Warner | 42⅝ | 41½ |
| Bristol Myers | 49⅝ | 49⅝ |
| BP | 38¼ | 38⅝ |
| Burlington Ind | 18½ | 18⅝ |
| Burlington Nthn | 65⅞ | 64⅝ |
| Burroughs | 50½ | 48⅞ |
| Campbell Soup | 32⅜ | 31⅞ |
| Canadian Pacific | 34½ | 33⅞ |
| Caterpillar | 58⅞ | 65⅛ |
| Celanese | 63 | 61⅞ |
| Central Soya | 15½ | 15⅛ |
| Chase Manhat | 43⅝ | 44⅛ |
| Chem Bank NY | 46⅝ | 45 |
| Chesapeake Ohio | 41⅞ | 41⅞ |
| Chrysler | 5⅞ | 5⅞ |
| Citicorp | 23 | 22 |
| Cities Service | 47⅞ | 47⅛ |
| Clark Equip | 35⅞ | 35⅛ |
| Coca Cola | 33⅞ | 32⅞ |
| Colgate | 14⅝ | 14⅝ |
| CBS | 49 | 49⅛ |
| Columbia Gas | 38⅞ | 39⅛ |
| Combustion Eng | 41⅞ | 42 |
| Comwlth Edison | 18⅝ | 18⅝ |
| Conoco | 62 | 60⅛ |
| Cons Edison | 24½ | 24⅛ |
| Cons Foods | 24⅞ | 24¼ |
| Cons Power | 16⅝ | 16⅛ |
| Continental Grp | 32⅝ | 33⅝ |
| Control Data | 65½ | 64 |
| Corning Glass | 60⅞ | 60⅞ |
| CPC Intnl | 59¼ | 59½ |
| Crane | 42 | 42 |
| Crocker Int | 36⅜ | 36⅜ |
| Crown Zeller | 46⅝ | 46⅝ |
| Dart & Kraft | 43⅛ | 43 |
| Deere | 42 | 41⅛ |
| Delta Air | 65 | 64 |
| Detroit Edison | 11⅛ | 11⅛ |
| Disney | 51⅛ | 49⅝ |
| Dow Chemical | 34 | 33⅝ |
| Dresser Ind | 47⅞ | 46⅛ |
| Duke Power | 17 | 17⅛ |
| Du Pont | 42 | 40⅝ |
| Eastern Air | 7½ | 7⅞ |
| Eastman Kodak | 71⅛ | 70⅝ |
| Eaton Corp | 28 | 27⅞ |
| El Paso Nat Gas | 23⅞ | 23¼ |
| Equitable Life | 11¼ | 11¼ |
| Esmark | 48⅛ | 49 |
| Evans P. D. | 20⅛ | 20⅛ |
| Exxon Corp | 77½ | 76⅛ |
| Fed Dept Stores | 31⅝ | 31⅛ |
| Firestone | 10⅝ | 9⅞ |
| Fst Chicago | 16⅞ | 15⅞ |

| | Jan 27 | Jan 26 |
|---|---|---|
| Fst Nat Boston | 34⅞ | 34⅝ |
| Fst Penn Corp | 4⅛ | 4⅞ |
| Ford | 19⅝ | 19⅝ |
| GAF Corp | 13⅛ | 13⅞ |
| Gen Dynamics | 35 | 35⅞ |
| Gen Electric | 62⅝ | 62 |
| Gen Foods | 31⅛ | 31 |
| Gen Mills | 28⅛ | 28⅞ |
| Gen Motors | 44⅜ | 44⅛ |
| Gen Pub Util NY | 4⅛ | 4⅛ |
| Gen Tel Elec | 26½ | 26⅛ |
| Gen Tire | 21⅛ | 21 |
| Genesco | 6 | 5⅞ |
| Georgia Pacific | 26½ | 25⅝ |
| Getty Oil | 87⅞ | 85⅛ |
| Gillette | 28 | 28 |
| Goodrich | 22⅛ | 22½ |
| Goodyear | 17⅝ | 17½ |
| Gould Inc | 26⅝ | 26⅞ |
| Grace | 53⅛ | 52⅞ |
| Gt Atlic & Pacific | 5 | 4⅞ |
| Greyhound | 14½ | 14⅝ |
| Grumman Corp | 23½ | 24 |
| Gulf Oil | 40⅝ | 40⅛ |
| Gulf & West | 15⅝ | 15⅝ |
| Heinz H. J. | 47⅛ | 47⅝ |
| Hercules | 20⅞ | 20⅞ |
| Honeywell | 106⅛ | 105 |
| IC Inds | 30⅝ | 30 |
| Ingersoll | 70 | 69½ |
| Inland Steel | 28⅛ | 28⅛ |
| IBM | 65⅞ | 65⅝ |
| Int Harvester | 22⅝ | 22⅝ |
| INCO | 18⅞ | 19 |
| Int Paper | 41⅞ | 42⅛ |
| Int Tel Tel | 29 | 29 |
| Irving Bank | 48⅝ | 48⅝ |
| Jewel Co | 34⅛ | 34⅛ |
| Jim Walter | 28⅞ | 28⅝ |
| Johns-Manville | 23⅞ | 23⅞ |
| Johnson & John | 97 | 96½ |
| Kaiser Alumin | 23⅛ | 23⅛ |
| Kennecott | 28⅛ | 28½ |
| Kerr McGee | 74⅝ | 71½ |
| Kimberly Clark | 56⅛ | 57⅛ |
| K Mart | 17⅛ | 17½ |
| Kroger | 19⅞ | 20⅛ |
| L.T.V. Corp | 19⅝ | 18⅞ |
| Litton | 78 | 74⅞ |
| Lockheed | 30⅝ | 30 |
| Lucky Stores | 13⅞ | 13⅛ |
| Manuf Hanover | 31 | 31 |
| Mapco | 43 | 42⅛ |
| Marathon Oil | 71 | 70 |
| Marine Midland | 16½ | 16 |
| Martin Marietta | 65⅞ | 65⅞ |
| McDonnell | 43⅛ | 41⅞ |
| Mead | 25⅞ | 25⅛ |
| Merck | 84½ | 83½ |
| Minnesota Mng | 59 | 59⅞ |
| Mobil Oil | 77½ | 77⅞ |
| Monsanto | 70⅛ | 67⅞ |
| Morgan J. P. | 51 | 50⅞ |
| Motorola | 67 | 68⅞ |
| NCR Corp | 63⅛ | 62⅞ |
| NL Industries | 69⅞ | 68⅞ |
| Nabisco | 27⅞ | 27⅞ |
| Nat Distillers | 26⅛ | 26⅞ |
| Nat Steel | 25 | 24⅞ |
| Norfolk West | 41½ | 41⅞ |
| NW Bancorp | 28⅛ | 29 |
| Norton Simon | 14⅞ | 14⅛ |
| Occidental Pet | 32⅛ | 31 |
| Ogden | 34⅛ | 33⅞ |
| Olin Corp | 21 | 21⅛ |
| Owens-Illinois | 24⅞ | 24⅞ |
| Pacific Gas Elec | 20⅞ | 20½ |
| Pan Am | 4⅞ | 4⅞ |
| Penney J. C. | 22½ | 22½ |
| Pennzoil | 42⅞ | 41½ |
| Pepsico | 28½ | 28⅜ |
| Pfizer | 51⅛ | 51⅛ |
| Phelps Dodge | 33½ | 33⅞ |
| Philip Morris | 43⅞ | 43⅞ |
| Phillips Petrol | 55⅞ | 53⅞ |
| Polaroid | 24½ | 23⅞ |
| PPG Ind | 41½ | 41½ |
| Proctor Gamble | 67½ | 67⅞ |

| | Jan 27 | Jan 26 |
|---|---|---|
| Pub Ser El & Gas | 18½ | 18⅛ |
| Rapid American | 25 | 24⅝ |
| Raytheon | 95⅛ | 92½ |
| RCA Corp | 28⅛ | 28⅛ |
| Republic Steel | 23⅞ | 22½ |
| Reynolds Ind | 48⅛ | 46½ |
| Reynolds Metal | 35⅛ | 35⅞ |
| Rockwell Int | 35⅛ | 36½ |
| Royal Dutch | 93⅝ | 93⅞ |
| Safeways | 30⅝ | 30⅝ |
| St Regis Paper | 32⅞ | 32⅞ |
| Santa Fe Ind | 96½ | 93⅞ |
| SCM | 25½ | 25⅛ |
| Schlumberger | 113½ | 112⅛ |
| Scott Paper | 23½ | 24½ |
| Seagram | 56⅛ | 56⅝ |
| Sears Roebuck | 15⅝ | 15½ |
| Shell Oil | 50 | 49⅞ |
| Shell Trans | 41⅞ | 41⅞ |
| Signal Co | 25⅛ | 24⅞ |
| Singer | 13⅛ | 12 |
| Sony | 15⅛ | 15⅛ |
| Sth Cal Edison | 24⅞ | 24⅞ |
| Southern Pacific | 40⅛ | 38 |
| Southern Rly | 76½ | 75½ |
| Sperry Corp | 57⅛ | 56⅞ |
| Std Brands | 26⅞ | 25⅞ |
| Std Oil Califnia | 96 | 93⅞ |
| Std Oil Indiana | 73⅛ | 71⅛ |
| Std Oil Ohio | 65 | 64⅞ |
| Sterling Drug | 21½ | 21⅞ |
| Stevens J. P. | 14 | 14⅛ |
| Sunbeam Corp | 16⅞ | 17 |
| Sun Comp | 43⅛ | 42½ |
| Teledyne | 157½ | 160⅛ |
| Tenneco | 48 | 48⅛ |
| Texaco | 43½ | 42⅞ |
| Texas East Corp | 70⅝ | 72 |
| Texas Inst | 113 | 112 |
| Texas Utilities | 17⅛ | 17½ |
| Textron | 30⅝ | 30⅞ |
| TWA | 20⅛ | 20⅛ |
| Travelers Corp | 38⅞ | 38⅞ |
| TRW Inc | 54⅞ | 54⅞ |
| UAL Inc | 19⅞ | 19⅞ |
| Union Carbide | 54⅞ | 53⅛ |
| Union Oil Calif | 41⅛ | 39⅞ |
| Un Pacific Corp | 69⅛ | 68⅛ |
| Uniroyal | 5⅞ | 5⅞ |
| United Brands | 15⅛ | 15⅛ |
| US Industries | 8½ | 8⅛ |
| US Steel | 25⅞ | 25⅛ |
| Utd Technol | 55⅛ | 55 |
| Wachovia | 19½ | 19 |
| Warner Lambert | 22 | 22⅛ |
| Wells Fargo | 29½ | 29⅛ |
| West'n Bancorp | 33⅞ | 33⅞ |
| Westghse Elec | 26⅞ | 27½ |
| Weyerhauser | 33⅞ | 34 |
| Whirlpool | 19⅞ | 19⅛ |
| White Motor | 2⅞ | 2⅞ |
| Woolworth | 24⅛ | 24⅞ |
| Xerox Corp | 56½ | 56 |
| Zenith | 17½ | 17⅞ |

### Canadian Prices

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Abitibi | 22⅞ | 22½ |
| Alcan Alumin | 38⅝ | 37⅛ |
| Algoma Steel | 40½ | 40 |
| Bell Telephone | 19½ | 19¼ |
| Cominco | 68 | 69 |
| Cons Bathurst | 23⅛ | 22⅞ |
| Gulf Oil | 24⅛ | 23⅛ |
| Hawker Sid Can | 23⅛ | 22½ |
| Hudson Bay Min | 33 | 33⅛ |
| Hudson Bay Oil | 22⅞ | 22½ |
| Imasco | 32 | 33 |
| Imperial Oil | 34⅞ | 35⅛ |
| Int Pipe | 15⅛ | 15½ |
| Mass.-Fergsn | 5⅛ | 5½ |
| Royal Trust | 19½ | 20⅛ |
| Seagram | 67⅛ | 67⅞ |
| Steel Co | 36 | 35⅛ |
| Thomson N 'A' | 21⅛ | 21⅛ |
| Walker Hiram | 28⅛ | 28⅛ |
| WCT | 15 | 15 |

* Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

## US commodities

GOLD futures dipped to $520-$522 an ounce. CHICAGO IMM. Feb, $521.00 bid; March, $528.50-527.50; April, $534.80 asked; June, $548.80-549.30; July, $556.60 bid; Sept, $568.90 bid; Oct, $575.60; Dec, $588.90 bid; Jan, $595.60 asked; March, $608.90 bid. NY COMEX. Jan, $521.00; Feb, $520.00-521.50; March, $527.30; April, $534.00-536.00; June, $548.00-560.00; Aug, $562.30; Oct, $575.90; Dec, $590.00-591.50; Feb, $603.10; April, $616.70; June, $630.30; Aug, $643.90; Oct, $657.50.

SILVER futures made a moderate recovery from limit losses of 50 cents on book squaring. Closing prices were off 42 to 48.5 cents. Jan, 1,350.00c; Feb, 1,345.00c; March 1,359.00-1,368.00c; May 1,401.00-1,402.00c; July 1,444.00c; Sept, 1,486.50c; Dec, 1,548.50c; Jan, 1,569.50c; March 1,611.50c; May 1,653.50c; July 1,695.50c; Sept, 1,737.50c.

COPPER futures closed firmer amid weakness in the precious metals complex, with gains of 1.55 to 1.35 cents.—Jan, 83.50c; Feb, 83.60c; March, 84.80-85.10c; May, 87.60-87.90c; July, 90.00-90.10c; Sept, 93.25c; Dec, 95.00c; Jan, 96.00c; March, 97.85c; May, 99.50c; July, 101.10c; Sept, 102.70c.

SUGAR futures closed 0.94 to 0.60 cent lower. The March delivery settled at 28.40 cents a pound after meeting resistance during an early surge of 0.65-cent to 29.95 cents.—March, 28.35-28.50c; May, 28.90-28.95c; July, 29.00-29.05c; Sept, 28.30-28.35c; Oct, 28.00-28.15c; Jan, 25.20 bid-25.80c asked; March, 25.50c; May, 25.35 bid-25.45c asked.

COTTON futures were: March, 87.35-87.50c; May, 89.00-89.10c; July, 90.00-90.10c; Oct, 87.01-87.05c; Dec, 84.00-84.30c; March, 85.10 bid-85.20c asked; May, 85.75 bid-86.00c asked; Jly, 86.40 bid-87.00c bid.

COFFEE futures closed an erratic, moderately active session with pared gains of 0.40 cent in spot March at 120.62 cents and of 1.47 to 1.99 cent in other active months. March 120.50-120.75c; May 125.10-125.25c; July 127.26-127.40c; Sept 129.00 bid-129.30c asked; Dec, 129.38-129.50c; March 127.00-127.25c; May 138.50c.

COCOA futures closed an uneventful session down $20 to $4. The March delivery contract lost $20 to finish at $1,937 per tonne. March, $1,953-1,935; May, $2,000-1,985; July, $2,050-2,035; Sept, $2,100-2,086; Dec, $2,157-2,148; March, $2,220-2,210.

CHICAGO Soyabeans. Futures closed near the top of a 12½ cent range, up 12¾ to 5¼ cents a bushel in active dealings. Oil settled 0.25c to 0.45c a lb higher. Meal finished up $4.20 to $0.50 a ton. SOYABEANS. March, 745½-733c; May, 773-761c; July, 796-784c; Aug, 804-792c; Sept, 807-798c; Nov, 821-811c; Jan, 838-829c; March, 857-852c. SOYABEAN OIL. March, 23.48-23.45c; May, 24.30-24.35c; July, 25.20-25.15c; Aug, 25.45c; Sept, 25.85c; Oct, 26.05-26.10c; Dec, 26.65c; Jan, 26.70 bid-26.75c asked; March, 26.95c bid. SOYABEAN MEAL. March, $218.00-218.50; May, $225.80-225.50; July, $231.50-232.00; Aug, $233.50 bid-234.00 asked; Sept, $236.00 bid-236.60 asked; Oct, $235.50 bid-236.50; Dec, $237.00; Jan, $239.00.

CHICAGO GRAINS. Wheat futures closed on bottom of an 11¼ cent range, down 8½ to 6 cents a bushel in revived trade. Corn futures finished 3 to 4¾ cents a bushel higher, around the middle of a five cent range, in active trade. WHEAT: March, 479½-468c; May, 488-478c; July, 477½-468c; Sept, 489-481c; Dec, 512½-506c. CORN: March, 367¼-363¼c; May, 377¼-373c; July, 382¼-378c; Sept, 376¼-371¼c; Dec, 370½-365¾c. OATS: March, 217½-216¾c; May, 219-217c; July, 213-211¼c; Sept, 313¼-210c; Dec, 218-218c.

# Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Stock Exchange Prices

# Rally maintained

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 26. Dealings End, Feb 6. § Contango Day, Feb 9. Settlement Day, Feb 16

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

## BRITISH FUNDS

| 1980/81 High | Low | Stock | | | Price | Ch'ge | Int. only Yield | Gross Red. Yield |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SHORTS | | | | | | | | |
| 99¾ | 89 | Treas | 9¼% | 1981 | 99⅝ | +⅛ | 9.814 | 13.617 |
| 98⅝ | 81 | Exch | 8¼% | 1981 | 98⅝ | +1/16 | 8.403 | 13.421 |
| 98½ | 91 | Exch | 9½% | 1981 | 98¼ | +1/16 | 9.669 | 13.234 |
| 94⅞ | 85½ | Exch | 3% | 1981 | 94⅞ | • .. | 3.162 | 12.828 |
| 100¼ | 93 | Exch | 12¾% | 1981 | 99⅞ | .. | 12.766 | 12.863 |
| 96 | 88 | Treas | 8½% | 1980-82 | 96 | +⅛ | 8.802 | 12.396 |
| 93¼ | 81⅝ | Treas | 3% | 1982 | 93¼ | • .. | 3.200 | 9.415 |
| 102¼ | 90½ | Treas | 14% | 1982 | 101 | +¼ | 13.861 | 13.029 |
| 94 | 85½ | Treas | 8¼% | 1982 | 94⅛ | +⅛ | 8.753 | 12.780 |
| 94 | 85¼ | Exch | 9¼% | 1982 | 94⅛ | +⅛ | 9.813 | 13.232 |
| 93 | 84⅛ | Exch | 8¾% | 1983 | 93¼ | +⅛ | 9.384 | 12.793 |
| 87¼ | 76½ | Exch | 3% | 1983 | 86¾ | • .. | 3.459 | 10.295 |
| 98 | 85¾ | Treas | 12% | 1983 | 97⅞ | +1/16 | 12.280 | 13.181 |
| 93½ | 84¼ | Treas | 9¼% | 1983 | 92⅞ | +1/16 | 9.959 | 12.718 |
| 102½ | 94¼ | Exch | 13½% | 1983 | 100⅞ | +1/16 | 13.384 | 13.101 |
| 93 | 84½ | Exch | 10% | 1983 | 92⅞ | +1/16 | 10.768 | 13.045 |
| 85 | 76 | Fund | 5½% | 1982-84 | 85½ | .. | 6.442 | 11.452 |
| 97 | 88 | Exch | 11¼% | 1984 | 95½ | • .. | 11.779 | 13.095 |
| 104 | 94½ | Exch | 14% | 1984 | 102 | +1/16 | 13.685 | 13.104 |
| 79 | 68 | Exch | 3% | 1984 | 78 | .. | 3.816 | 10.679 |
| 99 | 58 | Treas | 12% | 1984 | 98 | +1/16 | 12.403 | 13.129 |
| 109¼ | 97 | Treas | 15% | 1985 | 106 | •+¼ | 14.069 | 12.862 |
| 73½ | 68 | Treas | 3% | 1985 | 73½ | .. | 4.090 | 10.907 |
| MEDIUMS | | | | | | | | |
| 103 | 89½ | Exch | 12¼% | 1985 | 96⅞ | +3/16 | 12.645 | 13.130 |
| 97 | 93 | Exch | 11¼% | 1986 | 94¼ | •+¼ | 12.370 | 13.147 |
| 92⅞ | 78 | Treas | 8½% | 1984-86 | 86 | +¼ | 9.908 | 12.144 |
| 105 | 90 | Exch | 13¼% | 1987 | 100¼ | +⅛ | 13.267 | 13.287 |
| 81½ | 70¼ | Fund | 6½% | 1985-87 | 80 | +¼ | 8.288 | 11.424 |
| 97 | 91¼ | Treas | 12% | 1987 | 95½ | +¼ | 12.901 | 13.608 |
| 83 | 71 | Treas | 7½% | 1985-88 | 78 | +¼ | 9.896 | 12.496 |
| 64 | 54⅞ | Trans | 3% | 1978-88 | 62 | +⅛ | 4.790 | 10.333 |
| 98 | 82 | Treas | 11½% | 1989 | 87⅞ | •+⅛ | 12.977 | 13.903 |
| 68¼ | 57¼ | Treas | 5% | 1986-89 | 65 | +¼ | 7.821 | 11.716 |
| 104¼ | 89 | Treas | 13% | 1990 | 96 | +½ | 13.506 | 13.744 |
| 82 | 68½ | Treas | 8¼% | 1987-90 | 77½ | +¼ | 10.786 | 12.591 |
| 96¼ | 81⅞ | Treas | 11¾% | 1991 | 88½ | +½ | 13.366 | 14.050 |
| 68 | 57½ | Fund | 5¾% | 1987-91 | 65 | +¼ | 9.084 | 12.118 |

## COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

### A—B

| 1980/81 High | Low | Company | Price | Ch'ge |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 186 | 117 | AAH | 174 | +2 |
| 200 | 101 | AB Electronics | 165 | +4 |
| 240 | 111¼ | AGB Research | 224 | • .. |
| 29 | 12 | AI Ind Prod | 13 | .. |
| 221 | 161 | APV Hldgs | 176 | +8 |
| 71 | 46 | Aaronson Bros | 53 | +1 |
| 88 | 42½ | Acrow | 46 | .. |
| 50 | 25 | Do A | 26 | .. |
| 200 | 142 | Adwest Group | 146 | +4 |
| 428 | 108½ | Aeron't & Gen. | 333 | .. |
| 37 | 15 | Aero Needles | 20 | .. |
| 24½ | 7 | Airfix Ind | 8 | -½ |
| 600 | 300 | AKZO | 335 | .. |
| 111 | 45 | Alcan Alum UK | 52 | +4 |
| 83½ | 73½ | Do 10½% | £77½ | .. |
| 42 | 30 | Allen W. G. | 38 | .. |
| 140 | 85 | Allied Colloids | 112 | • .. |
| 38½ | 24¼ | Allied Plant | 28 | .. |
| 290 | 222 | Amal Metal | 233 | .. |
| 96 | 49 | Amal Power | 73 | +7 |
| 39½ | 23 | Amber Day | 25 | .. |
| 38 | 29 | Amber Ind Hldgs | 29 | .. |
| 135 | 82 | Amstrad | 131 | .. |
| 89 | 56 | Anchor Chem | 65 | .. |
| 108½ | 53¼ | Anderson Strath | 75 | +½ |
| 94 | 60 | Anglia TV 'A' | 81 | .. |
| 11 | 7 | Anglo Amer Ind. | £9 | .. |
| 37 | 22½ | Aquascutum 'A' | 24½ | +½ |
| 68 | 34 | Arenson Hldgs | 49 | .. |
| 83 | 35½ | Argyll Foods | 79 | .. |
| 73 | 30 | Arlen Elec | 30 | .. |
| 114 | 80 | Arlington Mtr | 87 | .. |
| 93 | 45 | Ass Biscuit | 57 | .. |
| 221 | 178 | Ass Book | 210 | .. |
| 132 | 85 | Ass Brit Food | 117 | • -1 |
| 118 | 45 | Ass Comm 'A' | 52 | -1 |
| 79 | 39½ | Ass Engineer | 42 | +2½ |

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

C—E

F—H

I—L

M—N

O—S

T—Z

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

MISCELLANEOUS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 185 | 93 | Milford Docks | 97 | +2 | 9.8 | 10.1 |
| 135 | 88 | Nesco Inv | 123 | .. | 10.0 | 8.1 |
| 34 | 23½ | Sunderlnd Wtr | £34 | .. | 558 | 15.8 |

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

## RECENT ISSUES

| | Closing Price |
|---|---|
| Allied London Prop 8½% Cnv 1999 (‡) | £102 |
| Bell A. 9½% Conv 1999-2001 | £97¾+2 |
| Chester Water 9% Red Pref 1985 (‡) | £107½ |
| Dunbar Group 5p Ord (303) | 448 |
| East Anglian Water 9% Red Pref 1985 (‡) | £107½ |
| East Worcester Water 9% Red Pref 1985 (‡) | £107½ |
| Essex Water 8¾% Red Pref 1985 (‡ b) | [illegible] |
| Exchequer 12% 'A' 1998 (‡) | [illegible] |
| Exchequer 13¼% 'B' 1999 (‡ h) | £19¾+¼ |
| Independent Inv 25p Ord (107) | 12 |
| Lon Merchant Secs 7¾% Cnv Ln 2000-05 | £47¾ |
| New Zakyo Inv Trust 50p Ord | 115 |
| Portals 9½% Cnv 1994-2000 (‡) | £17¾ prem+1 |
| Treasury 11½% 1989 'A' (‡ a) | £57¾+¼ |
| Treasury 11¾% 2003-2007 'A' (‡) | £89+½ |

| RIGHTS ISSUES | Latest date of renun | |
|---|---|---|
| Johnson Matthey (184‡) | Mar 13 | 5 prem+3 |
| Norcros (60‡) | .. | 11 prem. |

Issue price in parentheses. • Ex dividend. ‡ Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a £60 paid. b £10 paid. f Fully paid. g £40 paid. h £20 paid.

# Property

## International trend persists in Belgravia

World recession and the ravages of inflation appear to do little to dampen the international property market. Houses which attract the attention of the very rich will not draw large crowds of potential buyers, but there are enough well heeled clients visiting Britain's estate agencies for deals to be clinched.

Knight Frank & Rutley, the London agents in conjunction with John German Ralph Pay, are convinced they will not have to wait long before a buyer is found for what must be one of the capital's most expensive properties to come on the market for quite a while.

An Iranian businessman has decided to sell 28 Wilton Crescent, in Belgravia after having spent almost two years and more than £500,000 on refurbishing the four-storey house. In all that time he has never lived in the house but has resided in the mews cottage at the rear.

Refurbishment, which has been painstakingly undertaken by Sir Basil Spence, is virtually completed and the property is ready to move into.

The asking price for the house and the cottage is £1.75m and the agents believe this is the highest price sought in the area. The agents already report *interest from foreign buyers.*

The main house has three reception rooms, five bedrooms, four bathrooms fitted with Italian marble, a panelled library and a self-contained flat.

At basement level the house has its own private swimming pool, a jacuzzi, sauna, steam bath and impulse shower. There is also an area fitted out as a gymnasium which can also be used as a discotheque, because it has a sprung wooden floor. Another interesting feature is the walk-in strong room in the library behind a false book case.

There is a highly sophisticated security system with a closed circuit television.

At the rear of the house and connected by a 60ft roof terrace is the mews cottage which could provide office facilities, as a telex is already installed.

It has a large reception room, three bedrooms, three bathrooms, kitchen, sunroom, all decorated to a high standard, secretary's office and an integral garage with parking for four cars.

The house and cottage are part of the Grosvenor estate and are offered on a 55 year lease. Both are ready for immediate occupation.

For those with more modest tastes and incomes, a slightly unusual house is on offer through Braxtons the Battle agents. Built by James Burton, the creator and builder of Regency St Leonards, the Clock House at Maze Hills, St Leonards on Sea, Sussex, was used as his own home. It is a Grade 2 listed building completed in 1928 and resembles a small fortress.

The agents say that the house has been completely modernized and refurbished and stands in about a one third of an acre which has been landscaped providing a great deal of privacy.

It has two main reception rooms and 4/5 bedrooms and is on the market at an asking price of £82,000.

Another very different house is the Embassy Suite, situated immediately by the first fairway of the Gleneagles golf course, Perthshire, which is part of a small discreet development partly hidden among the trees which surround the course.

It has three double bedrooms with en suite bathrooms, a study/sitting room, a large reception room and a dining area. Panoramic views of the golf course from the rooftop terraces are the strong selling point of the development.

Strutt & Parker are the agents and invite offers above £195,000.

**Baron Phillips**



Close to £150,000 has been paid for Mixbury Hall, Mixbury, near Brackley, Northants, through the Banbury office of Lane Fox & Partners.



# Residential property

# La Creme De La Creme

## –Managerial–Administrative–Secretarial–Personal Assistants–

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Although English will be the working language of the company, applicants should be prepared to acquire a working knowledge of Dutch. Normal working hours will be from 9.30 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. and candidates must be prepared to adopt a flexible attitude to their duties.

A good salary will be paid with full relocation expenses and one return air ticket per year included as additional benefits. Interviews for this position will be held in London in mid-February and applications should be submitted in writing before February 10 to: The Vice President Finance, H.C.I. Ltd., P.O. Box 1888, Hamilton 5, Bermuda.

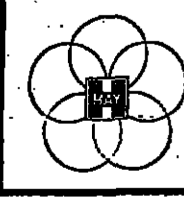



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As an enthusiastic and highly capable Secretary, do you feel frustrated by lack of real responsibility and few chances to use your initiative? If so, this progressive International Bank may have just the position you seek in their prestigious CITY offices.

Working for two Senior Executives, you will provide a complete secretarial service for them. One travels extensively obtaining banking business and the other spends more time in the office dealing with clients and formulating Bank Policy, etc. You should have excellent secretarial skills and a certain flair for figures.

You'll earn c £6,000 and an exceptional package which includes free travel, annual bonus, LV's, non-contributory pension, free medical care and subsidised mortgage facilities.

If you have the experience and drive to take on this demanding role (age is immaterial), please call Lois Pope on 01-404 5701 (24 hours). CRIPPS SEARS AND ASSOCIATES, Personnel Consultants, Burne House, 88-89 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LH.

Cripps, Sears

### Executive Secretary to Commercial Director c.£6000

Walton-on-Thames, Surrey

If you have a cheerful buoyant personality plus initiative and first class secretarial skills – really enjoy producing well presented work – this could be the right opportunity for you. It is a demanding post – you will need to be well organised, able to follow up work from initial instructions, and plan ahead. There is a considerable amount of telephone contact.

The person appointed is likely to be in the age range 30+ and have had experience of working at a senior level. Working conditions are excellent in modern offices situated close to the station and local shops. There is also car parking.

For an early interview, please apply in writing giving details of age, education, experience and current salary to:-
Miss R. A. Williams,
Birds-Eye Wall's Limited,
Station Avenue,
Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.

Birds Eye Wall's Ltd

### SECRETARY PERSONNEL

Required for the District Personnel Department at St Mary's Hospital, Praed Street, London, W.2. Post would suit a Secretary wishing to start a career in the Personnel field. Accurate typing essential and knowledge of shorthand preferred.

Starting salary: £4,522 p.a. plus 30 days annual leave and Bank Holidays. Hours: 9.15 a.m. to 5.30 p.m., 5.15 p.m. Fridays.

Apply in writing giving brief details of experience and the names and addresses of two referees to the District Personnel Officer at the above address, tel. 01-262 3C98 for further information. CLOSING DATE: 6th February, 1981.

### Management Secretary Williams & Glyn's Leasing Co.

A responsible and demanding position has arisen in our Leasing Company in Birchin Lane, EC3. Working for the Managing Director and his immediate colleagues the secretary will be fully involved in a wide range of secretarial duties as well as some aspects of administration. Secretarial skills of the highest order are needed and we are looking for someone who is experienced, well organised and used to working on their own initiative. Starting salary is £6475 plus a profit sharing scheme, mortgage scheme, generous holidays and free banking. Please write or phone:
Mary North, Personnel Department,
Williams & Glyn's Bank,
New London Bridge House,
25 London Bridge Street, SE1 9SX.
Tel: 01-407 3121.

WILLIAMS & GLYN'S BANK LTD.
Where people come first.

### DOWELL SCHLUMBERGER

an oil service company, is looking for a

**SECRETARY TO MARKETING MANAGER**

Applicants should be aged 23 to 32, have good secretarial skills and be keen to get involved in setting up a new marketing function based in London. Knowledge of French and/or German would be an advantage although not essential.
Good salary, LVs plus other benefits.

Send c.v. or telephone:
Sue Gardner,
DOWELL SCHLUMBERGER,
Marble Arch House, 66/68 Seymour St.,
London, W1H 5AF.
Tel.: 723 8687.
(No agencies)

### (Garment import firm)

We are a large garment import firm working mainly with Asia.
●
You are English mother-tongue bilingual French (spoken, not written) secretary.
●
Age: 23 upwards - fast shorthand/typing
●
Most important, you are quick, curious and interested in the development of the company.
●
If you think this description applies, you are maybe the person I want to handle prospection and general contacts with Asian suppliers.

**YOUR SALARY WOULD START AT ABOUT 75,000 FF/annum.**

Catch - you must be available to work extra hours (sometimes evenings or Saturdays) - paid overtime, of course - and also prepared to commit yourself to living in Paris for at least two years.
●
Send CV to Société CAREL, 52-54 rue de Cléry - 75002 Paris

### OFFICE MANAGER/ESS CROYDON

required for fast expanding mail order company. The right applicant will have previous experience in a similar position be hard-working, unflappable and will thrive in a busy, and sometimes very pressurized environment. The ability to type is useful and any experience in personnel, computers and export procedures would be a definite advantage.

The prospects are excellent but clock watchers need not apply as the position calls for a seriously career-minded person over 25. Salary not less than £6,500 plus bonus.

Telephone The Manager on 01-771 3621 for interview.

### PUBLISHING £6,000 NEG.

Young M.D. of leading magazine publishers is looking for a top P.A. If you are aged between 25-30 have good secretarial skills, and a flair for organisation telephone.

01-499 6566

THE GROSVENOR BUREAU Staff Consultants

### SECRETARY W.1

We are looking for a Secretary for the Deputy Company Secretary of a large International organization with interests which include publishing, the travel industry and North Sea oil.

You will be efficient and methodical with good typing skills. Audio and/or shorthand experience is essential, although speed is less important than accuracy when dealing with legal documents and company records, where attention to detail is a must! Previous experience in stockbroking, banking, accounting or legal work is desirable but not essential. Age is not important but it is unlikely that anyone under 24 will have the maturity and experience required. In return we offer a salary of c. £5,500, 5 weeks' holidays, luncheon vouchers, subsidised staff restaurant and season ticket loan scheme.

Please write enclosing C.V. or telephone for an application form to:

MRS SUSAN FARQUHARSON
THE THOMSON ORGANISATION LTD.,
4 Stratford Place, London, W1A 4YG.
Telephone 01-629 8111.

### PA—COMMODITIES

Circa £6,500 — E.C.3

Career possibilities exist working as Secretary to the Managing Director who owns this recently formed commodity company. Enthusiasm to learn about this fascinating financial world combined with shorthand typing skills essential. If you prove to have an aptitude for broking the rewards are high, or if you prefer to remain a loyal P.A. to the M.D. you will be equally appreciated. Good educational background and smart appearance necessary. Ring 628 4835.

Recruitment Consultants
Crone Corkill

### Management Consultants PA/Secretary

c. £5,500 — West End

A well known management selection consultancy is looking for a Secretary/P.A. for one of the Directors.
Essentially the job is fast, accurate audio typing—largely on a word processor for which training is given—plenty of telephone contact, progressing assignments, arranging interviews.
Combine an approachable, lively personality with the ability to cope under pressure and take independent decisions . . . then you will be close to the target.
If you have "A" levels or equivalent, a good secretarial background and fit this specification, please telephone:
GEORGINA BENNETT RECRUITMENT on 01-493 6196 or write to 11 Maddox Street, London, W1R 9LE.

### SECRETARY to the board of Directors

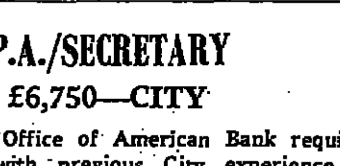
Salary c. £6,500

S. W. Berisford Ltd, situated in the City, is seeking a Senior Secretary for the board of Directors. Applicants must have a high standard of secretarial skills together with complete confidentiality in their work; experience dealing with directors at board level is essential.
This is an interesting and challenging position which requires tact and flexibility.
For further information, please write, together with details of career to date to:
Mr P. H. Dawson, 50 Mark Lane, London EC3R 7QJ

### P.A./SECRETARY £6,750—CITY

Representative Office of American Bank requires PA/Secretary with previous City experience to work with the Representative and to run the office while he is abroad. Lots of travel planning and plenty of opportunities to do other than run-of-the-mill Secretarial chores.

Ring Eileen Rawson on 01-606 5609.



### THE LONDON AND PROVINCIAL NURSING SERVICE

are looking for experienced SRNs to join their busy team of nurse counsellors in central and greater London involved with the recruitment and placement of nurses in the Health Service hospitals. The post offers interesting and rewarding work and will bring you into contact with a wide range of people. Applicants should be over 25 years with good organising ability, patient and energetic. Secretarial skills and able to drive an asset. Hours 9-5 Monday to Friday.

Further details please ring:
01-928 4248

### TRAINEE SALES TO £6,000

A very successful commercial group, our client, has career openings for two extrovert, determined people, aged 21+ with the drive/ambition to succeed in sales. Based in W. London, you'll benefit from excellent residential training and a first class, fast moving working environment. As well as career prospects you will start on a salary of £4,500 plus commission and benefits. For full details ring Barry Eaglestone.

629 7262
Media Appointments

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

**Circa £7500**

Efficient person over 30 living in London required to run all aspects of medium-sized company in S.W.1, i.e., personnel general organisation. Experience and good skills necessary. This is a position requiring a person with initiative and organisational ability who enjoys dealing with people and solving problems.
Reply with CV and date of birth to

Box 2621 F, The Times.

### COME AND HAVE A DRINK WITH US

We know that it's just not possible for many senior secretaries to come in to see us during the working day but tomorrow, Thursday, January 29, we're staying open till 7 in the evening. Either ring us about our wide range of satisfying jobs in London and overseas, or look in on your way home tomorrow for a drink and a chat about the opportunities, fringe benefits and promotion prospects.

Senior Secretaries,
Recruitment Consultants,
173 New Bond Street, W.1.
01-499 0092 : 01-493 5907

### AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S

Covent Garden based International Secretariat requires a Secretary to the Administrative Manager. The Administrative Manager has overall responsibility for all aspects of administration, including Personnel, Accounts, Travel and Office maintenance. This is an interesting and varied position for a mature and experienced Secretary. Excellent speeds required (50/100) and audio typing necessary. Salary £5,922.95 p.a. (index-linked), LV's paid.
For an application form send a S.A.E. to:
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
Personnel Department
10 Southampton Street
London WC2E 7HF
Tel: 01-836 7788 Ext. 289
Closing date for the return of completed forms: Wednesday, 11th February.

### PART TIME CAREERS

OFFER THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES

PA/SEC with experience in Europe at top level. 20 flex-hours weekly. Central London. £3,500 pa.

PA/SEC chairman level AM's. SW London. £3,500 pa.

BOOK-KEEPER to trial balance with experience in legal firms. 15 hours weekly. Baker St. area. £2,500 pa.

AUDIO/SEC + TELEX AND SWITCHBOARD, 3 days weekly. City. £3,000 pa.

For further particulars of these candidates and many more ring

Part-Time Careers
Recruitment Consultants
437 3103

### P.A./EXECUTIVE SECRETARY £6,000 p.a.

With top shorthand/typing skills required. The job would suit a person with an interest in commercially orientated research, as well as in some statistical analysis. Excellent working conditions in luxurious Park Lane office. Please send details to Mrs G. Eaves, General Petroleum & Minerals (C.I.) Ltd., 129 Park Lane, W.1 or telephone 01-629 8090.

### DIRECTORS SECRETARY REQUIRED

For SW1 office of professional society whose activities range from writing technical literature to organising international conferences. Office situated one minute from Victoria station. All round experience of office procedures and willingness to take responsibility important. Good shorthand and typing essential. Four weeks holiday, luncheon vouchers and other benefits. Salary circa £5,500.

Contact Valerie Newark
01-730 8493

### OUTSTANDING CAREER OPPORTUNITY

**c. £6,500**

If you are numerate, familiar with the role of a Company Secretary and have excellent secretarial skills then this exciting new position as Assistant to the Chief Accountant of a large Advertising Group of companies will interest you. Please telephone Elizabeth Moon.

SENIOR SECRETARIES
Recruitment Consultants
3/6 Trump Street EC2V 8DA
01-606 1611

### P.A. TO DIRECTOR KNIGHTSBRIDGE

A unique opportunity has arisen to work as P.A. to a director of a company involved in the personal and business affairs of celebrities from the entertainment world. You will be working in beautiful offices for a dynamic, highly successful lawyer, who will make use of your first class secretarial skills and expect you to be quick-thinking and keen to accept responsibility. Friendly team atmosphere. Salary £6,000 + (two reviews a year).

Ring 437 1126

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

### BI-LINGUAL P.A./Secretary 21+

To £6,500

This is a first class opportunity for a really good, young Secretary (although age is immaterial) with fluent French & German, to work with a Director in his mid 30's. Plenty of delegation, involvement with P.R. and Advertising. Close to Central London Tube.

01-408 1611
MacBlain NASH
Recruitment Consultants

### DIRECTOR'S P.A. TO £8,000

Director of an important National organisation based at Victoria needs a top assistant—a graduate aged 30/40 with 110/60 speeds and secretarial experience at a very senior level. Duties will include progress chasing and preparing Board minutes. Immaculate appearance and the ability to handle real responsibility are essential. Telephone Margaret Mannell.

SENIOR SECRETARIES
Recruitment Consultants
173 New Bond Street W1Y 9PB
01-499 0092 : 01-493 5907

### LEGAL WORLD PA/SEC £6,000 NO SHORTHAND

Young partner who travels frequently requires experienced legal secretary who would prefer to organise their own working day. Varied responsible duties combined with client liaison. Company/commercial background pref. (Rec. Cons.).

439 1856

### FASHION—S.W.3

Efficient P.A./Sec. required by Designer/Entrepreneur to assist him in the control of his various business activities from his Chelsea office. These include a Hongkong export co., a London based Jean distribution company and a famous London retail shop. An interesting and varied job for someone with experience, initiative and a pleasant personality. Good shorthand/typing and telex required. Fashion experience an advantage but not essential. Age 25-35. Salary c. £6,000.

Please ring Kathy McKinnon on 01-351 3164

### OIL COMPANY £7,000

Exciting opportunity to become the PA to The Senior Executive heading this new project team within major International oil company. Your shorthand/typing skills should be impeccable combined with the ability to administrate, organise and cope with a wide variety of people and problems. Experience within building/oil/construction ideal. Excellent prospects/benefits. Age 30+.

Dulcie Simpson 405 7711
DAVID WHITE ASSOCIATES LTD.
Rec Cons

### SECRETARY £6,500

Our client, who is engaged in offshore oil and gas marine services, seeks a top secretary with good shorthand/typing skills and able to operate a telex. The ideal applicant must possess a pleasant personality, the ability to organize and run a small office in Central London and be prepared to work without supervision. Please write in the strictest confidence to:
T. J. Nurney and Co. Ltd.,
T.J.N. House,
23, Union St.,
Barnet, Herts.

### PERSONNEL £6,000

An international City bank requires a secretary, 28-32, with shorthand typing skills and administrative ability. The salary is £6,000, plus a mortgage facility at 3%, four weeks holidays, £3.50 LV's per week, etc.

City 377 8600
West End 439 7001

Secretaries Plus
The Secretarial Consultants

### PRESENTABLE, EDUCATED PERSON

with bags of zip, zest and great at dealing with people, required to help demonstrate equipment at the Ideal Homes Exhibition. Full or part-time, good wages and expenses.

Telephone Caroline Penley on Gloucester 36252 or write to: Mecanaids Ltd., St Catherine Street, Gloucester, GL1 2BX.

### TRI-LINGUAL P.A.

£7,000 + perks

Your fluent French and knowledge of Spanish will enable you to cope during many absences of the young President of W.1 bank. If you are 30+, able to do French shorthand, have good speeds and excellent command of English please phone Christine, B.I.S., 01-439 0375 for an early appointment. (Agy.).

### INTERESTED IN PEOPLE? TO £6,000

As an Assistant to the M.D. of a newly opened Management Consultancy, you'll be expected to learn and become involved in this highly confidential world. Diplomacy in top level client contact is a must along with fast, accurate typing. In return you'll be given every opportunity to grow with the company. Ring Amanda Teale.

SENIOR SECRETARIES
Recruitment Consultants
3/6 Trump Street EC2V 8DA
01-606 1611

### £6,500

Brilliant young V.P. of important U.S. leasing Co., near Piccadilly, needs a lively, intelligent Secretary (mid. 20's), with good skills, to deal with his business & personal work.

01-730 5148
consultants
JAYGAR CAREERS LTD

### EXCELLENT CHALLENGE WITH VAST POTENTIAL

Chairman of expanding exhibition equipment company in N.W.10, requires an experienced Sec./P.A. Must be able to work on own initiative, attend exhibitions and meet customers. Good s/h typing and sense of humour prerequisite.
Salary c£5,500
Ring 01-950 7582

### SECRETARY/P.A.

Required for Senior Partner of firm of stockbrokers. Applicants should be aged 25/35, well spoken and of good appearance with excellent typing and shorthand. Varied job—small friendly office.

Salary £6,500.
Contact Carole Robinson, 283 5523.
No agencies please.

### £8,500 p.a. PA/SEC

For luxury offices, near Chancery Lane Tube. Educated to "A" level standard. Must have 120 w.p.m. shorthand. Capable of working under pressure. Excellent appearance and cheerful, team spirited personality essential. Age 25-35. This unique position of responsibility and trust has arisen as the present secretary is leaving to marry abroad.

Please ring me at my office, 01-404 3111

### SEC./P.A.

c £6,500 pa

One of our partners is seeking an organised and reliable secretary with excellent shorthand and typing skills, enthusiasm and a sense of humour. Client contact. Young friendly team of 12.
Please apply:
Deanna Garness,
Richard Saunders and Partners,
Surveyors and Estate Agents (City),
01-606 7481

### CORDON BLEU COOKS FOR VILLAS

Small World need young people, 21-28, with Cordon Bleu or solid experience of cooking for numbers to run their Villa Parties of 14 to 28 guests in Greece and Portugal this summer.

Ring Marion on — 01-240 3233

### DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY

MAYFAIR — £6,000+

Join a small busy team as Secretary to the Director/General Counsel of an International Company with worldwide interests. Good skills (s/h or audio) and presentation important knowledge of French an advantage. Luxury offices and generous bonus scheme. 23+. Phone or write to: Stephanie Ward, 3 Hanover Sq., W.1. 491 4852.

### P.A./SECRETARY

Shorthand typing, telex for International Commodity Merchant, 9.30-5.30, small Bond Street office. £6,000 p.a. 4 weeks' holiday.

Telephone Diana
493 5636

### M.D. P.A./SECRETARY

UP TO £7,000 + BONUS

The M.D. of this large City Insurance Brokers requires an experienced P.A./Secretary, aged 25-45, with good shorthand and audio skills to assist him in the running of his social and business life.

Tel: Sue Morris on 626 8524
D.T. SELECTION (Rec. Cons.)

### CONSERVATIVE EURO MP

requires experienced secretary to run London office. Involves good typing, telephoning and diary management. Salary negotiable.

TEL.: 583 8290

### LEGAL PA/SEC £6,500

Top level position ideally suited to an adaptable legal secretary with a minimum of 2 years experience looking for advancement. You will be assisting an ambitious Partner on a variety of legal cases. Own office. Shorthand and audio skills essential. (Rec. Cons).

LEGAL WORLD
439 1856

### HALCYON DAYS

Beautiful enamel boxes and antiques.

Required for our happy busy Mail Order office: A mature person experienced in letter writing and in office routine. Must be an accurate typist; knowledge of order processing an advantage. Good references essential. Full-time permanent position. Hours 9.15-5.30. Salary around £5,000.

Please telephone:
Joanna Chubb, 409 1914
14 Brook St., W.1.

### LONDON DESIGN CONSULTANCY require INTELLIGENT AND ENERGETIC SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST

with wide job brief, for interesting vacancy, in friendly company. Salary £5,000.

Call Renee Hinchley on 01-434 2794

### SENIOR SECRETARY

Mature person required for Managing Director of large Public Company, at Oxford Circus. Good telephone manner important, plus the ability to organise a busy office. Accurate shorthand and typing essential. Salary £6,000 per annum plus.

Phone 491 2818 Ext. 8

La creme de la creme also on page 23

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## PERSONAL CHOICE



*Rosalie Crutchley as Aunt Ellen, the strict guardian of the Hensman boys, in Brendon Chase (ITV, 4.45 pm)*

● One of the first great mechanized expeditions was the French Citroen Expedition of 1924 which crossed the African continent from Algeria to Mozambique. An illustrated account of this adventure is the second programme in the series Travellers in Time (BBC 2, 7.30) which Duncan Carse presents from the Royal Geographical Society. The expedition, which began on October 28, took eight months and covered some 13,000 miles. It began by following the route of the Moroccan invaders across the Sahara, calling at the Beni-Abbes oasis and the great well of Tesselit. By Christmas they had reached Lake Chad. From there they went to the Belgian Congo and the Sudan, on the way having to hand build rafts to carry the three and a half ton cars fitted with caterpillar half-tracks across treacherous rivers. When the expedition reached Kampala it split into three groups for the final leg to Madagascar which they reached on June 20. On the journey some 8,000 photographs were taken and specimens collected of 300 mammals, 800 birds and 1,500 insects. Some of the 90,000 feet of film that was shot on the expedition makes up this fascinating programme.

● People who live near a dam should certainly watch tonight's Open Secret (BBC 1, 10.20). In the programme Peter Williams reports on the state of the 2,000 dams that Britain boasts. He discovered that the majority of them are built of soil and clay rather than the more usual concrete and were built in the last century. Because of past disasters in other parts of the world each dam, by law, has to be checked every 10 years by a qualified engineer but Mr Williams has found that some of our dams have never been inspected. As there is no exact record-keeping nobody knows how many have slipped through the inspection process. We have avoided a major disaster so far but is that just because we are lucky? The programme suggests that that is the case.

● Shelagh Delany's first radio play—So does the Nightingale (Radio 4, 3.02 pm) has its postponed premiere this afternoon. It is a comedy about an ageing spinster who, after a life-time of looking after her father, breaks loose when he eventually dies. What she gets up to is a terrible shock to the rest of the family. Linda Polan plays Alice, the elderly spinster.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: †STEREO; *BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.

# Broadcasting Guide

**Edited by Peter Dear**

## TELEVISION

### BBC 1

**9.05 am For Schools, Colleges:** Technical Studies—Sand Casting; 9.35 Maths—Angles; 9.58 Wearing the right clothes; 10.12 Words and Pictures; 10.30 Home Economics; 11.02 Everyday Maths; 11.25 You and Me (not Schools); 11.40 English; 12.05 German. Closedown at 12.30.
**12.45 pm News.**
**1.00 Pebble Mill at One.** On the programme today is Ian Lyon with information on cheaper air fares and suggestions for holidays in the Far East. In addition a well known personality will prepare their favourite dish in the regular feature, Star Chef. 1.45 Trumpton (r).
**2.01 For Schools, Colleges:** Shoes in all shapes and sizes. 2.18 Twentieth Century History. 2.40 Read On!
**3.00 Speak for Yourself.** Advice for people who want to apply for a refund for faulty goods (shown yesterday on BBC 2). 3.25 Delia Smith's Cookery Course. Stocks and Soups are the subject of this second programme of culinary hints. 3.55 Play School (shown earlier on BBC 2). 4.20 Undercover Elephant. The sleuth with the long nose disguises himself as a pirate in this afternoon's cartoon adventure. 4.25 Jackanory. Joanna David with the third part of By the Shores of Silver Lake by Laura Ingalls Wilder. 4.40 Take Hart. Tony and his little friend Morph have another busy day. 5.00 John Craven's Newsround. World-wide news for young people. 5.05 The Strange Affair of Adelaide Harris. Part five of the six-part serial (r).
**5.40 News** read by Richard Baker. 5.55 Regional News. 6.20 Nationwide.
**6.55 Triangle.** Another episode in the serial about a North Sea ferry and her crew.
**7.20 Film: Hostile Witness (1968),** starring Ray Milland and Sylvia Sims. A barrister lands in the dock after he swears vengeance on the person who killed his daughter in a hit-and-run incident.
**9.00 A Party Political Broadcast** on behalf of the Liberal Party.
**9.05 News** read by Angela Rippon.
**9.30 Sportsnight.** Harry Carpenter introduces the programme which includes highlights of last night's fight between Tony Sibson and Noberto Cabrera. David Vine reports from Megeve in the French Alps on the Ladies' Downhill Ski-ing competition.
**10.20 Open Secret: Dam Liability.** Peter Williams with a report on the safety of the 2000 dams in Britain (see Personal Choice).
**10.50 Parkinson.** His guests tonight are Sir Peter Parker, David Jacobs and Robert De Niro.
**11.50 News headlines.**

### Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: BBC Cymru/Wales: 10.30-10.50 am Ysgolion; Dauaryddiaeth. 11.02-11.22 Ffenestri. 2.18 pm-2.38 Ysgolion. 5.05-5.35 Grange Hill. 5.35-5.40 Fred Basset. 5.55-6.20 Wales Today. 6.55-7.20 Heddiw. 7.20-7.45 Triangle. 7.45-8.15 Seconds Out. 8.15-9.00 Star Trek. 11.50 News for Wales: Close. Scotland: 12.40-12.45 pm Scottish News. 5.55-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 11.50 News and weather for Scotland: Close. Northern Ireland: 3.53-3.55 pm Northern Ireland News. 5.55-6.20 Scene Around Six. 11.50 News for Northern Ireland: Close. England: 5.55-6.20 pm Regional Magazines. 11.55 Close.

### BBC 2

**10.20 am Gharbar.** Advice for Asian women. Closedown at 10.45.
**11.00 Play School.** Floella Benjamin and Fred Harris are the presenters and the story is Ted Moult's The Old Tractor. Closedown at 11.25
**5.30 pm Harold Lloyd.*** The bespectacled comedian wins a live turkey in Hot Water and then is chased by police when they raid an illegal gambling establishment in Bumping into Broadway.
**5.55 16 Up.** The fourth of ten films for young people. In this evening's programme they give their views on drugs and drink to Rowdy Yates of Lifeline Project.
**6.20 The Master Game.** Jeremy James presents the fourth game in the 13 match competition. It is between Lothar Schmid of West Germany and Hein Donner of The Netherlands.
**6.50 Grapevine.** A magazine programme featuring self-help and community action presented by Helene Hayman. This evening we hear from a group of youngsters from Nottingham who are campaigning for a youth club on their estate and in the comment section of the programme Michael Newman, Warden of the Working *Men's College in London,* makes a plea for adult education.
**7.20 News** with a sub-titled synopsis for the hard-of-hearing.
**7.30 Travellers in Time.** Duncan Carse introduces the second of six programmes on early exploration. The French Citroen Expedition, the first motorized crossing of Africa, is featured this evening (see Personal Choice).
**8.00 The Magic of Dance.** Margot Fonteyn recalls the history of Romantic Ballet and its greatest exponents.
**9.00 M*A*S*H.** Korean war comedy. The obnoxious Major Winchester falls for a girl who is socially beyond the pale.
**9.25 Son and Lovers.** A dramatization in seven parts of D. H. Lawrence's famous novel starring Tom Bell and Eileen Atkins.
**10.20 God and the Scientist.** In the second of six programmes Donald MacKay, Professor of Communication and Neuro-science at Keele University talks to Ronald Eyre about the relationship between his brain research and his Christian beliefs.
**10.45 A Party Political Broadcast** on behalf of the Liberal Party.
**10.50 Newsnight.** The latest news plus reports on the stories that made today's headlines presented by Peter Snow, Charles Wheeler, John Tusa and Peter Hobday. The programme ends at 11.40.

### THAMES

**9.30 am For Schools:** Craft activities for infants; 9.50 My World—Landmarks; 10.10 Life with a Victorian doctor; 10.35 Music—brass instruments; 11.05 Fish and fishing methods; 11.17 Life in France; 11.34 The English Programme.
**12.00 Cloppa Castle.** Adventures of puppets who live in a medieval castle (r).
**12.10 pm Rainbow.** Educational puppets with guest Claire Woolford. 12.30 About Britain: Serenade for a City. Some of the musicians who played at the Plymouth 400 Festival last year to celebrate the circumnavigation of the globe by Sir Francis Drake perform their programme.
**1.00 News.** 1.20 Thames News.
**1.30 Crown Court.** The final episode in the trial of a woman who is charged with pushing her friend's husband down stairs (r).
**2.00 After Noon Plus.** Tim Sainsbury MP talks about his Indecent Displays (Control) Bill; Studs Terkel tells us about the mood of Reagan's America and there is a film about an African village in the depths of darkest Essex. 2.45 Fantasy Island. A dreadful series in which people are given the chance to act out their fantasies with the help of Ricardo Montablan. 3.45 Movies Memories with Roy Hudd. His guest this afternoon is Charles Hawtry. 4.15 Dr Snuggles. Cartoon adventures of a lovable old inventor. 4.20 Runaround. Mike Reid referees this fast moving quiz between ten contestants.
**4.45 Brendon Chase.** The runaway Hensman boys encounter their first bad weather. 5.15 Gambit. A general knowledge quiz game based on the card game Pontoon. Fred Dinenage asks the questions and Michelle Lambourne deals the cards.
**5.45 News.** 6.00 Thames News.
**6.25 Help!** Viv Taylor Gee has Francis Seeley in the studio to explain how he started the Networks Food Co-op in Enfield. 6.35 Crossroads.
**7.00 This is Your Life.** Eamonn Andrews and his red book surprise another unsuspecting celebrity whose life flashes by in under 30 minutes.
**7.30 Coronation Street.** It's christening time for the Tilsley's baby. Will everything go smoothly?
**8.00 Starburst.** Variety show featuring, among others, some of the cast from Oklahoma! Ray Ellington, Anna Dawson and Instant Sunshine.
**9.00 Honky Tonk Heroes** starring James Grout and Sheila Staefel. The second of three comedy plays set in a South London country and western music club.
**10.00 Party Political Broadcast** on behalf of the Liberal Party.
**10.05 News.**
**10.35 The New Standard Drama Awards** introduced by Ned Sherrin from the Savoy Hotel in London. Six "Bests" will be presented tonight and among the distinguished panel of judges is our own Bernard Levin.
**11.30 Golf.** Arnold Palmer against Gary Player is the match tonight in the USA v The World competition being played at Turnberry. Tony Jacklin and Peter Allis are the commentators.
**12.20 am Close.**

## RADIO

### Radio 4

6.00 am News.
6.10 Farming.
6.30 Today.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Mid-week: Noel Edmonds and Company.
10.00 News.
10.07 Gardeners' Question Time.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Story.
11.00 News.
11.05 Baker's Dozen.
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.27 Frank Muir Goes Into . . . Gloom.†
1.00 News.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: So does the Nightingale, by Shelagh Delaney (see Personal Choice).
3.50 Through my Window, with Michael Hordern.
4.00 Choral Evensong, from Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford.†
4.45 Story: No Fond Return of Love (8).
5.00 PM.
6.00 News.
6.30 My Music.†
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Checkpoint.
7.45 Will Jones is Dead—Long Live Will Jackson, by Tim Rose Price.
8.45 Analysis.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 News.
10.30 The Harp That Once, Irish harpist Turlough O'Carolan (1670-1738).
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: The Worm Forgives the Plough (3).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.23 am Shipping.

VHF
9.05 am Schools: Advanced Studies: English; Radio Thin King (2); La France Aujourd'hui (2); Poetry Corner: Music Makers; Something to Think About.
10.30 Listen with Mother.
10.45-12.00 Schools: The Music Box: By the *People: for the* People: Casebook '81; Quest.
2.00-3.00 pm Schools: Movement and Drama I; Books, Plays, Poems (2); Nature.
11.00-11.30 Study on 4: ¡Digame! (13).

### Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Britten, Chopin, Vaughan Williams.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Records: Copland, Janacek, Mozart.†
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composer, Rimsky-Korsakov.†
10.00 Organ: Henry Smart, S. S. Wesley, Mendelssohn, F. E. Bache, F. A. G. Ouseley.†
10.40 Cantatas: Bernier, Rameau, Boismortier, David Tunley.†
11.40 Concert: Brahms, Tchaikovsky.† (12.10-12.20 pm Reading): Schumann.
1.00 pm News.
1.05 Flute and Percussion: Per Norgaard, Hindemith, Morris Pert, John Buller.†
2.05 Music Weekly.†
2.55 Edward Downes conducts Pfitzner, Sibelius, Bantock.†
4.00 Reading: Wordsworth: The Prelude (4).
4.30 Recital: Mozart and the Violin.
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
7.00 Song Recital: Riccardo Pick-Mangiagalli, Wolf-Ferrari.
7.30 Scientifically Speaking: Night Sight, with Dr Trevor Lamb.
8.00 London Mozart Players, part 1: Handel, Mozart.†
8.50 Six Continents.
9.10 London Mozart Players, part 2: C. P. E. Bach, Beethoven.†
10.00 Margaret Price song recital: Schumann.†
11.00 News.
11.05-11.15 Record: Neptune, The Mystic, by Holst.†

### Radio 2

5.00 am News. 5.03 Bob Kilbey.† 7.32 Terry Wogan.† 10.03 Jimmy Young.† 12.03 pm David Hamilton.† 2.03 Ed Stewart. 4.03 Much *More Music.*† 6.03 John Dunn.† 8.02 Band.† 8.45 Alan Dell.† 9.15 Semprini Serenade.† 10.02 Tony's.† 10.30 Mike Sammes. 11.02 Brian Matthew. 2.02-5.00 am You and the Night and the Music.†

### Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.00 Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Steve Wright. 2.32 Dave Lee Travis. 4.32 Peter Powell. 7.00 Radio 1 Mailbag. 8.00 Richard Skinner. 10.02-12.00 John Peel.†
VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

### World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT):
6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-four Hours. 7.45 Report on Religion. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Peebles' Choice. 8.30 Animal, Vegetable or Mineral? 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Play It My Way. 10.15 Divertimento. 10.30 International Year of the Handicapped. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 Listening Post. 11.30 The Music Party. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 pm Nature Notebook. 12.25 The Farming World. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-four Hours. 1.30 Radio Theatre. 2.15 Report on Religion. 2.30 Aspects of the Blues. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Through the Looking Glass and What Alice Found There. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Book Choice. 5.15 Listening Post. 5.30 Take One. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-four Hours. 8.15 Play It My Way. 8.45 Four Hands in Harmony. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 A House for Mr Biswas. 11.30 Top Twenty. 12.00 World News. 12.09 am News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Listening Post. 12.45 Musical Memories. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Living for Faith. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 Assignment. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 John Peel. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only: med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF. Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service: med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

## REGIONAL TV

### HTV

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25 Film: Hill in Korea* (George Baker). 5.15 Dick Tracy. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Report West. 6.30-7.00 Survival. 10.33-10.35 News. 12.05 am Closedown

HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV West except: 12.00-12.10 pm Ffalabalam. 4.15-4.20 Miguel, the Mighty Matador. 4.45-5.15 Straeon y Byd: Seland Newydd. 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales.

### Anglia

As Thames except: Starts 9.15 am-9.30 Jobline. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45 Young Ramsay. 3.45-4.15 Entertainers. 5.15-5.45 Alright Now. 6.00-6.35 About Anglia. 12.05 am Jacques Loussier. 12.35 Big Question.

### Border

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Love Boat. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00-6.35 Lookaround. 12.05 am-12.08 News.

### Ulster

As Thames except 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 4.13-4.15 News. 5.15 Cartoon. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00-7.00 Good Evening Ulster. 12.05 am-12.15 Bedtime.

### ATV

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Starparade. 5.15-5.45 In Loving Memory. 6.00 News. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30-7.00 ATV Today. 12.05 am News. 12.10-12.40 Country Music.

### Scottish

As Thames except 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Certain Women. 5.15 Tales of Crime. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.20 Tove's Talk Back. 6.30-7.00 Report. 10.35 Scotsport Special. 12.05 am Late Call. 12.10-12.40 *Three's Company.*

### Yorkshire

As Thames except 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Lifeline. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00-6.35 Calendar. 12.05 am Closedown.

### Grampian

As Thames except: Starts 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 5.15-5.45 Batman. 6.00-6.35 North Tonight. 12.05 am Reflections. 12.10 Paris by Night. 12.40-12.45 News.

### Channel

As Thames except: 12.00-12.30 pm Closedown. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Young Ramsay. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00-6.35 Channel Report. 10.00-10.05 Vision USA. 10.33 News. 10.39 Sports Special. 12.10 am Epilogue.

### Granada

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00 Live from Two. 2.50-3.45 Fantasy Island. 5.15-5.45 Welcome Back Kotter. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.25 This is Your Right. 6.30-7.00 Crossroads. 12.05 am-12.35 Police Surgeon.

### Westward

As Thames except: 12.27 pm-12.30 Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Young Ramsay. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00-6.35 *Westward Diary.* 10.36 *News.* 10.39 Sports Special. 12.10 am-12.15 Faith for Life.

### Southern

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25 Fantasy Island. 3.20-3.45 Survival. 5.15 Betty Boop. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Day by Day 6.35-7.00 Scene Mid-Week. 12.05 am Weather followed by What Use Cathedrals?

### Tyne Tees

As Thames except: 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20 pm News. 1.25-1.30 Where the Jobs Are. 2.45-3.45 Danger UXB. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25-7.00 Northern Life. 10.35 News. 10.37 Sports Special. 12.05 am-12.10 Sentimental Journey.



# Classified Guide



Box No. replies should be addressed to:
The Times, P.O. Box 7, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1X 8EZ.

## How to Place a Classified Ad.

To place an advertisement in any of these categories, tel.:

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|---|---|
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| Personal Trade | 01-278 9351 |
| Manchester Office | 061-834 1234 |

Queries in connection with advertisements that have appeared, other than cancellations or alterations, tel.: Classified Queries Department 01-837 1234, Extn 7180

All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

**The deadline for all copy is one clear publishing day.** i.e. Monday is the deadline for Wednesday, Friday for Monday & Tuesday. Stops and Alterations to copy is 3.0 p.m. prior to the day of publication: for Monday's issue the deadline is 12 noon Saturday. On all cancellations a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this Stop Number must be quoted.

## Classified Rates

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| Weekend Shoparound | £14.00 per cm full display, minimum 5 cms |
| Court Circular | £5.00 per line |
| Box Numbers | £5.00 |

# PERSONAL COLUMNS
ALSO ON PAGE 8

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

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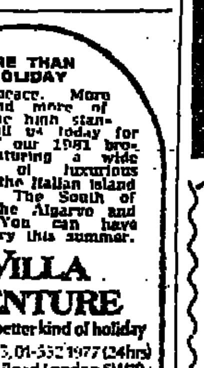
## The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,435

ACROSS
1 Poor potter in this game (9).
6 Serious—and spiritless, no doubt (5).
9 Social worker gives Mr Lea no break (7).
10 Such arts the warrior or the poet shows (7).
11 No sort of profit from music (5).
12 After-service "organization"? (9).
13 African leaders voluble, and so wealthy (8).
15 Great deal of money for plant (4).
19 Hirsute twin (4).
20 Ointment said to be from the castle (8).
23 Attendant set about firing one in Framley (9).
24 Key to a tragedy, that's plain (5).
26 Preserved — canned, commonly (7).
27 Possibly beat art silk (7).
28 Sounds enough for the French test (5).
29 Plant appears odd—longer variety (9).

DOWN
1 Head-comber? What a good idea! (9).
2 The spirit of my translation (5).
3 Saint gives up clothes to an army man (8).
4 Possibly right about number getting in—doing well (6).
5 Agile doctor in river (6).
6 Bound to move hands on watch? (6).
7 Officer in US naval prison gets a rough ride (9).
8 Banter in court exchanges (5).
14 No runners-up in these events? (4, 5).
16 Borne, or carried without real difficulty (9).
17 Like the Aged's feelings for Wemmick? (8).
18 Aim to correct message in friendly spirit (8).
21 One shot, or more? (6).
22 Report about the same ferocious animal (6).
23 She passes in poetry (5).
25 Mistake arising in bar or restaurant? (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,434









(continued on page 8)

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